

## 5 Simple steps to be more prepared today.

- Identify an out of area contact..
- Know your connections-who will you rely on and who will rely on you
- Establish a meeting place for you and your connections.
- Take stock of the things you use every day that also could be useful in an emergency. These are the making of disaster supplies
- Talk about what you've done to be prepared with the people you care about.

## Flood Warning = Take Action!

- Flooding is either happening or will happen shortly.
- Move immediately to higher ground or stay on high ground.
- Evacuate if directed.
- Avoid walking or driving through flood waters. Turn Around, Don't Drown! Just 6 inches of moving water can knock you down and 2 feet of water can sweep your vehicle away.

## After a flood

- Return home only when authorities say it is safe.
- Be aware of areas where floodwaters have receded and watch out for debris. Floodwaters often erode roads and walkways.
- Do not attempt to drive through areas that are still flooded.
- Avoid standing water as it may be electrically charged from underground or downed power lines.
- Photograph damage to your property for insurance purposes.

## Important Numbers

Emergency...9-1-1  
Non-Emergency...831-471-1121  
PG&E...800-743-5000  
Public Works...831-477-3999

## Sheriff's Centers

Live Oak/Soquel	831-454-7682
San Lorenzo Valley	831-461-7400
South County	831-763-4420
Aptos	831-662-690

 Nextdoor

<https://nextdoor.com/>



Santa Cruz County  
Sheriff's Office

Website: <http://scsheriff.com/>

## Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office

Floods/Basic Safety Tips  
and

Emergency Preparedness



*Service  
Community  
Innovation*

# Floods and Safety

## Be Aware – Take Steps:

- Turn on your TV/Radio. You will receive the latest weather updates and emergency instructions. Know local news frequency's.
- Know where to go. You may need to reach higher ground quickly and on foot.
- Build or restock your emergency preparedness kit. Include a flashlight, batteries, cash, and first aid supplies.

## Prepare your Home:

- Bring in outdoor furniture and move important indoor items to the highest possible floor. This will help protect them from flood damage.
- Disconnect electrical appliances and do not touch electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water. You could be electrocuted.
- If instructed, turn off your gas and electricity at the main switch or valve. This helps prevent fires and explosions.

## Essentials:

- Water - one gallon per person per day.
- Food – ready to eat or requiring minimal water. Baby food and special diets.
- Manual can opener (non electrical)
- First aid kit and instructions.
- Essential medications.

- Radio, battery operated and extra batteries.
- Cash in small denominations.
- Copy of important documents and phone numbers in a water proof container.
- Sturdy shoes.
- Heavy gloves.
- Fire extinguisher (A-B-C type).
- Warm clothes, hat and rain gear.
- Local map.
- Extra prescription eye glasses, hearing aid or other vital personal items.
- Blankets or sleeping bags.
- Extra house and car keys.
- Any special needs items for children and seniors or people with disabilities.
- Pet supplies, including water.
- Corded telephone – non electrical.
- Cellphone Charger

## Sanitation Supplies:

- Large plastic trash bags for trash, waste and water protection.
- Large trash cans
- Bar soap and liquid detergent
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Feminine and infant supplies
- Toilet paper
- Unscented household bleach or a water purifier

filter and tablets.

- Newspaper to wrap garbage and waste.

## Safety and Comfort:

- Sturdy shoes, rain boots
- Heavy gloves for clearing debris
- Change of clothing
- Toys for children

## Cooking:

- Barbeque, camp stove, chafing dish (for outdoor use)
- Fuel for cooking (charcoal, propane, etc.)
- Matches
- Plastic utensils
- Paper plates and cups
- Paper towels
- Heavy-duty aluminum foil

## Tools and Supplies:

- Axe, shovel, broom
- Crescent wrench for turning off gas.
- Screwdrivers, pliers, hammers.
- Coil of ½” rope.
- Plastic Tape and sheeting. Duct tape.

- Know your flood risks. – Make a flood plan
- Build and restock your emergency preparedness kit, including a flashlight, batteries, cash and first aid supplies.
- Consider buying flood insurance
- Familiarize yourself with local emergency plans. Know where to go and how to get there should you need to get to higher ground, the highest level of a building or to evacuate.
- Stay tuned to your phone alerts, TV, or radio for weather updates, emergency instructions, or evacuation orders.