

Flood Facts

- It only takes six inches of water to reach the bottom of most passenger cars causing loss of control and even stalling.
- One foot of water can float most vehicles.
- It only takes six inches of rushing water to knock a person down.
- New construction and paving can alter land's ability to drain properly; therefore, increasing run-off from two to six times of what would occur on natural terrain.
- It does not have to be raining for a flash flood to occur. Some of the most dangerous floods originate from miles away.

Cherokee Nation Emergency Management

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Emergency Management



FLOOD SAFETY

On the Road

Almost half of all flash flood deaths occur in vehicles that have been swept downstream.

- Avoid moving water. It only takes two feet of rushing water to carry away most vehicles.
- Be cautious of where flood waters have receded. The roads may have weakened and the weight of a car could cause them to collapse.
- Watch for downed power lines.
- Listen for the latest updates and instructions on your local radio station.
- Do not drive too fast through low water. It can cause the vehicle to hydroplane.
- Watch for flooding at all highway dips, bridges and low areas.

- Road beds may have been scoured or washed away during flooding.



Going Home

- Always wait until it has been declared safe before returning home.
- Do not drink water until it has been reported safe to drink by health officials. If it is unsafe, water should be vigorously boiled for 10 minutes or longer before drinking or using the water for cooking.
- Water wells should be pumped out and tested for harmful chemicals.

- Before entering the building, check for structural damage and turn off outside gas lines at meter or tank. Let the building air out to remove foul odors or escaping gas.
- Do not use an open flame as a source of light. Gas may be trapped inside. Also, use rubber gloves and boots when inspecting the building.
- Wait until an electrician has checked electrical appliances before turning them on.
- Throw out all medication or food that has come into contact with the flood waters.

