

Are you flood-ready?

Even in a drought, flooding can happen. Extreme dry conditions can harden the ground and increase run-off to streams and creeks during the first few days of heavy rain, increasing the risk of flooding. Any time it can rain, it can flood. Don't get caught off-guard; be flood-safe with tips from Valley Water.

Flood Safety Tips

- Know your risk. Visit www.valleywater.org/floodready to check whether your house or business is in a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) and learn how to read FEMA flood maps.
- Gather building materials like plywood, plastic sheeting, and sandbags to protect your home. Sandbags can offer protection against up to a foot of floodwater, visit www.valleywater.org/sandbags.
- Build responsibly in floodplains and check with your city or county floodplain manager before you build.
- Keep debris and trash out of our streams. If you see any blockage in a creek, pond, or reservoir, call **1-888-510-5151** at any time.
- Get flood insurance ahead of time. Most homeowner's and renter's insurance do not cover flood damage, and typically there is a 30-day waiting period for the policy to go into effect.
- Put your three-day emergency kit together for your home and your car and keep a full tank of gas in your car.
- Develop an emergency plan and decide on a meeting spot in case you get separated.
- Download free disaster emergency apps to your smart devices, such as the Santa Clara County preparedness app "ReadySCC" or the American "Red Cross Flood" app.
- Understand shallow flooding risks - don't drive through standing water. A foot of water can cause vehicles to float away.



**Get
Flood
Ready**

For more information, visit <https://www.valleywater.org/floodready>

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