

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

Flash Flood Preparedness

Be aware of the following National Weather Service Flash Flood Bulletins

Flash Flood Watch

A Flash Flood Watch means heavy rain leading to flash flooding is possible. If you are in the area of a flash flood watch you should be prepared for heavy rains and flooding that may develop.

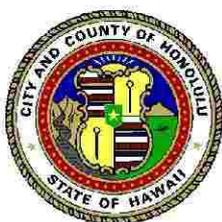
Flash Flood Warning

A Flash Flood Warning means that flooding is occurring or will develop quickly. If a Flash Flood Warning is issued for your area, take shelter and/or move to high ground as necessary. Never drive through water of unknown depth covering roadways.

Flood Advisory

A Flood Advisory means nuisance flooding is occurring or imminent. A Flood Advisory may be upgraded to a Flash Flood Warning if flooding worsens and poses a threat to life

- Learn the safest route from your home or place of business to high ground should you have to evacuate in a hurry.
- If your area floods, frequently keep emergency materials on hand such as sandbags, plywood, plastic sheeting, and lumber, which can be used to protect properties.
- Do not allow young children to play along streams or near drainage ditches. These areas can become deadly during rain storms.
- If your car stalls in a flooded area, abandon it as soon as possible. Floodwaters can rise rapidly and sweep a car (and its occupants) away.
- Many deaths have resulted from attempts to move stalled vehicles. **DO NOT** attempt to drive through flooded areas in your vehicle as parts of the road may already be washed out or the water much deeper than it appears. **Turn around, don't drown!**
- When hiking use extreme caution anytime heavy rains threaten, even if the rain is falling far upstream. A small stream can become a raging torrent within minutes if previous rainfall has been substantial. Don't cross until the flash flood subsides.
- If you experience a flood related emergency call **9-1-1** immediately!
- Visit the National Weather Service website at www.weather.gov/hawaii for more information on floods and flooding.



DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

City and County of Honolulu

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Plan and Prepare Now for the Next Disaster

Learn – Educate yourself on disasters that can affect you and your Family.

Plan – Create and exercise a Family Disaster Plan. Locate a secondary meeting place and designate an off island contact.

Individual, Family and Business Disaster Planning – Disaster planning is everyone's business. Carefully review this information and take the time today to discuss preparedness planning with family, friends and co-workers.

Develop a 7-Day Disaster Supplies Kit

Your disaster supplies kit should contain enough of the following items to last for 7-days:

- **Water** - One gallon of water per person per day for seven days for drinking and sanitation
- **Food** - Non-perishable food that does not require cooking. Popular local foods such as spam, corned beef and vienna sausages.
- **Eating Utensils** – Plates, mess kits, forks and chop sticks. Don't forget a non-electric can opener for canned foods
- **Radio** - Battery-powered or hand crank radio with NOAA Weather alert
- **Light** - Flashlight and or a portable fluorescent light
- **Spare batteries** - Check annually
- **First Aid** – Get a good kit and consider enrolling in a certified first aid course
- **Whistle** – Important for signaling for help. A whistle carries much farther than the human voice and uses less energy than yelling
- **Dust Mask** – Helps to filter contaminated air
- **Sanitation** - Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- **Tools** - Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities, duct tape
- **Maps** - Local area maps
- **Prescription** – Special medications and glasses
- **Baby** - Infant Formula and diapers
- **Pets** - Pet food and extra water for your pet

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