

Emergency Preparedness — Flood Myths v. Facts

MYTH #1: SUV's, pickups and other large vehicles are safe to drive through floodwaters. **NOT TRUE.**

FACT: Just two feet of water can float most vehicles and, if the water is moving quickly, vehicles can be swept away. If you come to a flooded road, turn around and go another way.

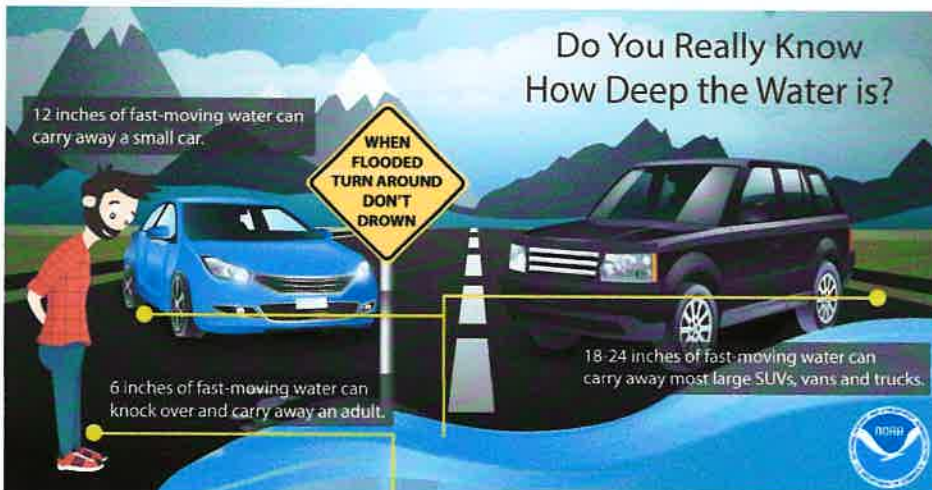
MYTH #2: Flash floods only occur near streams and rivers. **NOT TRUE.**

FACT: Flash floods also occur in areas where no streams are present, even urban areas.

MYTH #3: You can walk through floodwaters as long as the water is not too deep. **NOT TRUE.**

FACT: Always avoid floodwaters. Just six inches of swiftly moving water can sweep you off your feet. If you come upon a flowing stream where water is above your ankles, stop, turn around and go another way.

Know your risk of flooding water before it happens—and be prepared! 50 percent of all flood fatalities are vehicle-related. It is impossible to know how deep the water is just by looking at it. Don't risk your safety, or the safety of the people who may have to save you — remember—**"When Flooded, Turn Around, Don't Drown!"**



Happy 2023!!

Winter Water Conservation

While we might not be watering our lawn or maintaining much of a garden during these winter months, there are still ways to cut back on our water usage in the chilly months! A big part of using less water in the winter is anticipating the cold weather's effects on your home and on your pipes.

- If you haven't already done so, consider winterizing your pipes—both inside and outside.
- When temperatures drop below freezing, consider dripping any vulnerable faucets to prevent frozen and burst pipes. Place a bucket under the drip to use for your house plants and cleaning.
- The winter months are a great time to check for and fix any leaks inside your home.
- A bucket in the shower can catch water for your houseplants and clean-up jobs.

For additional ideas to conserve water—give Public Works a call at 503.982.9429.

Don't forget to keep your water meter accessible and clear of debris and weeds!

What does Storm Water Protection and Groundwater Protection Have in Common? If you answered that both have very similar if not the same types of activities that you can do to protect both surface waters from polluted storm water and groundwater from pollutants — you would be correct!

- Excess fertilizers/pesticides applied to lawn and gardens can wash off and pollute streams and/or the excess can travel downwards into the groundwater.
- Properly dispose of potentially toxic substances like unused chemicals, pharmaceuticals, paint, motor oil, and other substances.

For more information call 503-982.9429 or email molinger@cityofhubbard.org

Protect Our Waterways—Oil Spill Clean-ups: Oil and water don't mix. Just one quart of oil can contaminate one million gallons of water. If your car is leaking do not wash the oil down the driveway and into the storm drain! Instead:

- 1.Shake some absorbent material on the spill and let it sit for a few minutes;
- 2.Sweep up the absorbent material; and
- 3.Toss it in the trash.