

Flooding in Nebraska

What you need to know and how to stay safe.

Failing to take proper safety measures during floods can result in serious injury or death.

Different types of flooding occur in Nebraska:

Flash Flooding occurs following heavy rain, like a thunderstorm. Flood onset is typically rapid, sometimes without warning, making it one of the most life-threatening.

River Flooding occurs when river waters rise above or overflow the riverbank onto land.

Ice/Debris Jam floods occur when there is a blockage or buildup of ice/debris, resulting in water leaving its banks.

When Do Floods Occur in Nebraska?

Flood season in Nebraska typically occurs in the summer months, **from late spring to early fall**.

Floods commonly occur following a heavy thunderstorm or a rapid thaw of snow and ice. Blocked or overwhelmed drainage systems can exacerbate flooding in communities. Monitoring weather patterns, understanding your local risk, and staying informed through the National Weather Service are key to ensuring your safety.

Following a survey of households impacted by the 2019 flooding:

- A limited number of households say they have an emergency supply kit on hand.
- Few households were aware of ways to exit their community during an evacuation.

How to Monitor Your Risk

The Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment (previously Department of Natural Resources) provides real-time flood forecasting and information on ice jam reporting. Visit <https://dee.nebraska.gov/>

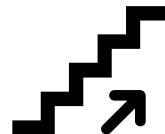
Flood Safety Tips



Don't drive through flood water. It is hard to tell how deep the water is.



Turn around, don't drown! Hidden dangers and debris lurk in flood waters.



Get to a higher elevation and stay where you are until help arrives.



Downed powerlines and submerged electrical equipment pose risk for electrocution.

Six inches of water is all it takes to get swept away!

How to Build an Emergency Supply Kit

An emergency supply kit is a collection of basic items that help you survive in the event of an emergency. Kits should be pre-made and accessible in an emergency.

Special Considerations

Be aware of you and your household's special health needs and pack accordingly. Medicine, inhalers, and walking aids may be important to you.

- Water
- Food
- Batteries
- Weather or emergency alert radio
- First aid supplies
- Cell phone charger
- Cash
- Maps
- Flashlight
- Hand sanitizer and moist towelettes

