



MONSOON MADNESS

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, PREVENTION, RESPONSE, RECOVERY AND MITIGATION

107 days the number of days in monsoon season - June 15 through September 30

10 miles - distance lightning can strike from a storm

30 minutes - suggested wait time after a storm passes before going outside

18 inches of water - can carry away a vehicle

6 inches of water - can knock down an adult

DANGERS DURING THE MONSOON:

Avoid severe weather, stay indoors, and keep your pets indoors. It is the safest place for everyone. Get current weather from TV, radio, or cell phone.

TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN

Do not cross roads with flowing waters. Driving around barricades is illegal and dangerous, obey all road signs.

Driving too fast through standing water can cause a car to hydroplane. Slow down and pull off the road with the lights off for a few minutes to wait out heavy rains.

Never drive through flooded roadways.

If a traffic signal is out, treat the intersection as a four-way stop

WHEN THUNDER ROARS, GO INDOORS

If you can hear thunder, lightning is close enough to strike, Monsoon winds create dense, blowing clouds of dust, affecting air quality.

WHEN IN DOUBT, WAIT IT OUT.

Microbursts can cause more damage than some tornadoes. Wind speeds as high as 150 mph are possible in extreme microburst cases. A tornado spirals, but a microburst is straight down with winds blowing rain in sheets. The microburst lasts 5 to 15 minutes and it strikes up to a 2.5-mile area. Beware of blowing debris. Winds that strong can blow over sheds and knock down large trees, branches, and power poles.

PULL ASIDE, STAY ALIVE

If you see a dust storm approaching, get indoors to protect your eyes and lungs. Do not drive.

If you encounter a dust storm while driving, pull off the road immediately. Turn off your headlights and taillights, put your vehicle in park, and take your foot off the brake so your brake lights are not illuminated. The storms usually last a few minutes, and up to an hour at most. Stay where you are until the dust storm passes.

PREPARATION – THINK ABOUT HOW YOU WILL RESPOND, DO YOU HAVE A PLAN?

Know the difference between a weather watch, warning, flood advisory, and flash flood warning

-If there is a watch issued, make any necessary changes in your activities to make sure you can quickly get to a safer place and can protect yourself.

-If there is a warning issued, act immediately to follow your emergency plan.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED IF YOU MUST STAY AT HOME FOR TWO WEEKS:

Gather enough emergency supplies for yourself and everyone in your household, including pets and service animals for at least two weeks for staying at home. Prepare for a potential power outage.

EMERGENCY SUPPLIES - BE PREPARED AT HOME, HAVE THESE THINGS ON STANDBY:

A minimum of three-day supply of water, 1 gallon for each person and pet per day
Non-perishable food (that does not need to be cooked, such as canned soup) for all family members and pets, a three-day supply and manual can opener
Cell phones and personal computers with information on hard drives and discs
First aid kit - Purchase flashlights, battery - powered radio and extra batteries for all items. Portable chargers and/or solar chargers for cell phones and laptops.
Personal hygiene items and sanitation supplies. Extra eyeglasses and contact lenses
Prescriptions or special medications, prepare a 30-day backup supply of medication
An extra set of keys, car, keys, credit cards, cash (small bills and coins) or travelers' cheques
Gather documents: important documents and copy or scan them including household, identification, (important family documents, ID, Social Security card, driver's license, marriage license, insurance policies), and contact numbers for your insurance agent, restoration company, and financial institutions
Gather medical information a list of your conditions, allergies, medications and dosages, doctors, caregivers, and health insurance cards. Keep documents in a waterproof box, safe, or with a trusted family member.

THE FIVE "P"s OF IMMEDIATE EVACUATION

People and pets. Food, water, and clothing.
Papers, copies of important documents
Prescriptions medical devices, and glasses
Priceless items, family, photos, and valuables
Personal needs cell phones

ARE YOU READY TO STAY AT HOME OR LEAVE RIGHT AWAY IN CASE YOU NEED TO EVACUATE.

Be prepared to go to a shelter if:
-Your area is without electrical power
-Police or other officials tell you to evacuate
-Your home has been severely damaged

WHAT WILL YOU NEED IF YOU MUST EVACUATE:

Have a lightweight kit of supplies for at least three days including basics, such as food and water, first aid kit, flashlight, whistle, cash, a change of clothes and sturdy shoes. Make sure you have phone, chargers, batteries, and battery back up plans for all medical devices.
Personalize your kit to address, medical and personal needs: or more include items such as an extra pair of prescription eyewear, medical devices, or any assistive devices, such as a cane or other comfort items.
Stay informed: monitor TV, radio and emergency alerts for watches, and warnings.
Keep a pair of old shoes and a flashlight handy in case of a sudden evacuation at night
Create a communication evacuation plan for your family.
Learn to turn off water, gas and electricity that supply your home.

AFTER AN EMERGENCY:

Return home when authority say it is safe to do so.
Work with trusted sources and be aware of scams. Be careful with providing personal information.
If there is evidence of structural damage to your home, have it inspected before you go back in
Throw out food that may have been about 40° for two hours or more
Be aware of the risk of electrocution if there is water in a home, do not go in until you are sure the power is off.
Document any property damage and contact your insurance agent
Check your property for overhanging trees, loose debris, and other potential hazards

WEBSITE RESOURCES: Offer tips and resources to preparation, reaction, and recovery for emergencies

www.ready.gov/prepare An official website of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security

www.FEMA.gov Federal Emergency Management Agency

www.redcross.org American Red Cross

www.ein.ec.com Arizona Emergency Information Network

www.dema.az.gov Arizona department of emergency and military affairs