

# 5 STEPS TO PREPARE FOR ANY DISASTER



## STEP 1. GET ALERTS

Sign up for warnings at [CalAlerts.org](https://www.calalerts.org)



## STEP 2. MAKE A PLAN

Discuss how loved ones will evacuate and reconnect



## STEP 3. PACK A GO BAG

Pack important documents ahead of time. Be ready to grab keys, wallet, phone/charger, medication and personal items



## STEP 4. MAKE A STAY BOX

Pack supplies for 3 days at home with no water or power: food that won't spoil, water, plastic bags/bucket for toilet, flashlight, radio and batteries



## STEP 5. HELP OTHERS

Be ready to assist those who need help

## RESOURCES

**Governor's Office of  
Emergency Services**  
[CalOES.ca.gov](https://www.caloes.ca.gov)

State guides, alerts, and resources

**CalAlerts.org**

Sign up for local emergency alerts

**Dial 2-1-1**

Find safe evacuation routes and shelters

**California Department of  
Public Health**

[tinyurl.com/floodrecover](https://tinyurl.com/floodrecover)

Flood recovery guide on sanitation and hazards

**ListosCalifornia.org**

Disaster readiness, response and recovery

**Ready.gov**

[ready.gov/recovering-disaster](https://www.ready.gov/recovering-disaster)

Federal guidance on recovery and safety



**Quick Guide to Safety  
Before, During, and After**

# FLOODS



**Cal OES**  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

## BEFORE A FLOOD



Move valuables to higher shelves or floors.



Keep nearby storm drains clear of debris.



Get plastic tarps and sandbags to block floodwater.



Learn the best escape route to higher ground.



Plan transportation to get everyone, including pets and livestock, to safety.



Keep your car's gas tank at least half full.



Plan for power outages, especially for any medical devices powered by electricity and refrigerated medicines. Charge devices and backup batteries.



Be ready to shelter in place with some gallon jugs of water, food you could eat if there is no power, and other items that you use every day.



Talk to neighbors about how you could work together to help keep each other safe.

## DURING A FLOOD



Follow reliable sources of information. Dial 2-1-1 or 3-1-1 to get help, find shelter, or ask questions.



Leave immediately when told by officials to go.



Never walk into moving water. Just six inches of moving water can make you fall.



Never drive into flooded areas. A foot of water will float many vehicles; two feet can sweep away a truck.



If trapped inside by floodwaters, move to higher floors or roof, but not attics. Call 9-1-1.



Avoid contact with floodwater.



Stay alert for mudslides near burn scars.

**EVACUATION WARNING** = Serious threat. Get ready or go now if people or animals need extra time.

**EVACUATION ORDER** = Leave immediately. Your life is in danger.

## AFTER A FLOOD



Check in with family, friends, and neighbors. If cell towers are down or overrun, try texting.



Wait until officials say it is safe to go home. If you can't go home, dial 2-1-1 to find safe shelter.



Beware of falling trees and damaged structures.



Check for gas leaks and downed power lines. If gas or electrical appliances were flooded, check them for safety before using.



Listen for official announcements on the safety of public water. Wells that flooded should be tested and disinfected.



Be aware potential hazardous chemicals may have been moved or buried by flooding.



If you have flood damage, contact your local emergency manager. Find other recovery resources on government websites.