

PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE UPTON NY
600 AM EDT TUE MAR 20 2007

...THIS WEEK IS NATIONAL FLOOD SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK...

TODAY'S TOPIC IS TURN AROUND DON'T DROWN.

TURN AROUND DON'T DROWN IS A NOAA NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO WARN PEOPLE OF THE HAZARDS OF WALKING OR DRIVING A VEHICLE THROUGH FLOOD WATERS.

EACH YEAR, MORE DEATHS OCCUR DUE TO FLOODING THAN FROM ANY OTHER SEVERE WEATHER RELATED HAZARD. THE MAIN REASON IS PEOPLE UNDERESTIMATE THE FORCE AND POWER OF WATER. MORE THAN HALF OF ALL FLOOD RELATED DEATHS RESULT FROM VEHICLES BEING SWEEPED DOWNSTREAM. OF THESE, MANY ARE PREVENTABLE.

TO AVOID BECOMING CAUGHT IN THESE SITUATIONS, FOLLOW THESE SAFETY RULES:

- MONITOR NOAA ALL HAZARDS WEATHER RADIO, OR YOUR FAVORITE NEWS SOURCE FOR VITAL WEATHER RELATED INFORMATION.
- IF FLOODING OCCURS, MOVE TO HIGHER GROUND. GET OUT OF AREAS SUBJECT TO FLOODING. THIS INCLUDES DIPS AND LOW SPOTS.
- AVOID AREAS ALREADY FLOODED, ESPECIALLY IF THE WATER IS FLOWING FAST.
- DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CROSS FLOWING STREAMS...TURN AROUND DON'T DROWN.
- ROAD BEDS MAY BE WASHED OUT UNDER FLOOD WATERS. NEVER DRIVE THROUGH FLOODED ROADWAYS...TURN AROUND DON'T DROWN.
- DO NOT CAMP OR PARK YOUR VEHICLE ALONG STREAMS, PARTICULARLY DURING THREATENING CONDITIONS.
- BE ESPECIALLY CAUTIOUS AT NIGHT WHEN IT IS HARDER TO RECOGNIZE FLOOD DANGERS.

THE TOPICS THAT WE WILL FOCUS ON THE REST OF THIS WEEK ARE:

WEDNESDAY...FLOODING AND RELATED PHENOMENA.

THURSDAY...FLOOD INSURANCE.

FRIDAY...FLOOD SAFETY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FLOOD AWARENESS WEEK USE THIS WEB SITE:

[HTTP://WWW.WEATHER.GOV/OKX/FLOODAWARENESS_WEEK.HTM](http://www.weather.gov/okx/floodawareness_week.htm)

IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION...CONTACT NANCY FIGUEROA OR GARY CONTE VIA EMAIL AT NANCY.FIGUEROA@NOAA.GOV OR GARY.CONTE@NOAA.GOV.