

Federal Emergency Management Agency.

- ✓ Develop an evacuation plan. Everyone in your family should know where to go if they have to leave.
- ✓ Discuss floods with your family. Everyone should know what to do in case all family members are not together. Discussing floods ahead of time helps reduce fear and anxiety and lets everyone know how to respond.
- ✓ Determine if the roads you normally travel to reach your home or job will be flooded during a storm. If so, look for alternative routes to use during flooding.
- ✓ Keep a NOAA Weather Radio, a battery-powered portable radio, emergency cooking equipment, and flashlights in working order.
- ✓ Have a professional install check-valves in plumbing to prevent flood waters from backing up into drains of your home.
- ✓ Keep your automobile fueled; if electric power is cut off, gas stations may not be able to operate pumps for days.
- ✓ Store drinking water in food-grade containers. Water service may be interrupted.
- ✓ Keep a stock of food requiring little cooking and no refrigeration; electric power may be interrupted.
- ✓ Keep first-aid supplies and prescription medicines on hand.

# Truth OR Fiction

## Myth

A 100-year flood occurs only once every 100 years.

## Fact

The 100-year flood is a climatic average; there is a 1% chance that a 100-year flood will occur in any given year

## Myth

Flash floods mainly occur in the eastern United States.

## Fact

Flash floods occur in all 50 states, including Alaska and Hawaii.

## Myth

Flash floods occur only along flowing streams.

## Fact

Flash floods can occur in dry arroyos and urban areas where no streams are present.

## Myth

Flash floods occur mainly in the late afternoon and evening.

## Fact

Many flash floods occur at night.

## Myth

Homeowners insurance policies cover flooding.

## Fact

Unfortunately, many homeowners do not find out until it is too late that their policies do not cover flooding. Contact your insurance company or agent to buy flood insurance.

## Myth

You can't buy flood insurance if your property has been flooded.

## Fact

You are still eligible to purchase flood insurance after your home, apartment, or business has been flooded, provided your community is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program.

## Myth

Sports Utility Vehicles (SUVs) can make it through flood waters.

## Fact

Larger vehicles have bigger tires which hold more air making them float easier. This puts owners of SUVs at a greater risk.