

DAC Facts

Dayton Area Chapter

*Helping people prevent, prepare for
and respond to emergencies.*



**American
Red Cross**

Floods & Flash Floods...



Are you prepared to weather the storm?

You should know that floods are among the most frequent and costly natural disasters. Floods usually occur when there is heavy or steady rain for several hours - or days - that saturate the ground. Flash floods usually occur suddenly due to rapidly rising water along a stream or low-lying area. It is important to know the difference between a Flood/Flash Flood **Watch** and a Flood/Flash Flood **Warning**.

Flood Watch = High flow or overflow of water from a river is possible within 12 to 36 hours.

Flood Warning = Flood conditions are actually occurring or are imminent in the WARNING area.

Flash Flood Watch = Flash Flood WATCHES are generally issued for flooding that is expected to occur within six hours after heavy rains have ended.

Flash Flood Warning = Flash flooding is actually occurring or is imminent in the WARNING area. A WARNING can be issued as a result of torrential rains, a dam failure or snow thaw.

During any type of alert, listen to area radio and television stations for continued updates. If you are in a watch/warning area, be prepared to evacuate immediately. When a WARNING is issued, move to higher ground and stay there. Stay away from flood waters that rise above your ankles - six inches of swiftly moving water can sweep you off your feet. If you come upon a flooded road while driving, turn around and go another way - most cars can be swept away by less than two feet of moving water. And lastly, make sure you have the proper supplies. These include: 3-days of drinking water, 3-days of nonperishable, easy-to-prepare food, flashlight, battery-powered radio, extra batteries, first-aid kit, manual can opener, cell phone with charger, 7-day supply of critical medications, family contact information, extra clothing and well-made shoes.