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## Florida Kidney Disaster Coalition ALL-HAZARDS EDUCATIONAL SERIES: FLASH FLOODS

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### ***TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN®***

**Except for heat related fatalities, more deaths occur nationwide from flooding than any other hazard.** Why? Most people fail to realize the power of water. For example, six inches of fast-moving floodwater can knock you off your feet. Many of the deaths occur in automobiles, as they are swept downstream.

**Most flash floods are caused by slow moving thunderstorms, thunderstorms that move repeatedly over the same area or heavy rains from tropical storms and hurricanes.** These floods can develop within minutes or hours depending on the intensity and duration of the rain, the topography, soil conditions and ground cover.

If you are driving or walking and come to a flooded road: **Turn Around, Don't Drown.** You don't know the depth of the water or the condition of the road under the water.

**Flash floods can strike any time and any place with little or no warning.** City streets can become rivers in seconds. Observe these flash flood safety rules. They could save your life.

**Flash Flood Watch** means it is possible that rains will cause flash flooding in the specified area. Be alert and prepared for a flood emergency.

**Flash Flood Warning** means flash flooding is occurring or is imminent in the specified area. Move to safe ground immediately.

- **Monitor the weather radio, or your favorite news source for vital weather related information.** Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers.
- **If flooding occurs, get to higher ground. Get out of areas subject to flooding.** This includes dips, low spots, canyons, washes etc. Avoid areas already flooded, especially if the water is flowing fast.
- **NEVER drive through flooded roadways.** If your vehicle is suddenly caught in rising water, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.

*For more information about flash flood safety, visit the  
National Weather Service Web site at:  
<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/tadd/>*

