

## The emergency doesn't end when the smoke clears.....

Wildfires can significantly change the landscape, presenting risk of debris-flows and flooding. Change in vegetation, combined with steep slopes and intense rainfall, increase the risk of flash flooding in the burned area. Lands downstream of the burned area are also subject to increased flooding.

Until the burned area begins to recover, little will stop the waters from coming down the canyons. While multi-agency efforts are being taken to reduce the risks to life and property downstream of the fire, residents in the area should develop individual plans to protect themselves and their property.

## Now is the time to prepare for post-fire flooding!

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## This publication was prepared by these partners:



## For additional information:

[NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection Recovery Assistance](#)  
[USDA Fire Recovery Assistance](#)  
[FEMA Flood Insurance Program](#)  
[FEMA Wildfire Increases Flood Risk](#)  
[FEMA Know Your Post-Wildfire Flooding Risk](#)  
[FEMA Flood After Fire—Fact Sheet](#)  
[Recovering from Wildfire--Damage Assessments After the Wildfire Toolkit](#)  
[Flood Emergency Preparedness](#)  
[NWS Post-Wildfire Flash Flood-Debris Flow Guide](#)  
[NWS-Monsoon Flash Floods](#)  
[After the Wildfire—NM Post-Fire Resources](#)  
[NOAA Flood After Fire-Know Your Risk](#)  
[After the Wildlife-Guide for NM Communities](#)



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# Your Guide to Flood Preparation

## Preparing for Flood Waters after Wildfires 2022





### **Know What to Expect in your area:**

- ✓ Know your community flood risk.
- ✓ Be alert to the possibility of flooding if it rains upstream.
- ✓ Stay aware through local radio or TV stations for public safety bulletins.
- ✓ Monitor a weather radio for real time weather conditions.
- ✓ Know if your community has a flood warning system and how the alert is given.
- ✓ Register your house and cell phone for a reverse 9-1-1 call.



### **Reduce Potential Flood Damage:**

- ✓ Raise your furnace, water heater and electric panel if they are in areas of your home that may be flooded.
- ✓ Clean your property's culverts and storm drains of dirt and flood debris.
- ✓ Dispose of refuse only in designated sites.



### **Prepare a Family Disaster Plan:**

- ✓ Keep insurance policies, documents and other valuables in a safe place.
- ✓ Purchase insurance that covers flooding. Update your coverage if needed.
- ✓ Take photos of your belongings in case you need to file insurance claims.
- ✓ Create a plan, if you need to evacuate, and make sure each member of your family understands the plan.



### **Assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit Containing:**

- ✓ 72-hour kit with the "5 P's" – papers, pills (medicine), phone, pets, purse (money), and photos.
- ✓ First aid kit and special items for infant, elderly, or disabled family members.
- ✓ Battery-powered radio and flashlight, with extra batteries.



### **Be prepared for a flash flood:**

- ✓ Evacuations may be necessary. You may only have seconds to escape. Act quickly.
- ✓ Move to higher ground away from rivers, streams, creeks and storm drains.
- ✓ Do not drive or walk-through flooded waters.
- ✓ Stay away from downed power lines and electrical wires.
- ✓ Watch out for lost pets and displaced wild animals.



### **After a Flood Event:**

- ✓ Do not return to your property until it has been declared safe for re-entry.
- ✓ Clean your body with soap and disinfected water if you encounter floodwaters.
- ✓ Notify the authorities of road damage, plugged culverts, or other public drainage infrastructure problems.