



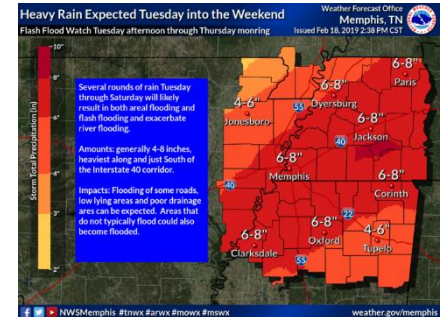
News Release

Emergency Management and Homeland Security Office, Shelby County Government.

For Immediate Release
February 19, 2019

Excessive Rain Predicted - Prepare for Potential Flooding

The Mid-South is preparing for possible flash flooding conditions this week as rainfall amounts are expected to reach four to eight inches. The National Weather Service in Memphis predicts a prolonged wet weather pattern for Shelby County beginning Tuesday bringing widespread rainfall and a risk for flash flooding. "Review your personal preparedness plans and stay alert for changing weather conditions", said Brenda Jones, Director of the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Office, Shelby County Government.



- **First Round:** Tuesday through Saturday, with four to eight inches of rain possible. Flash flooding and river flooding are possible along with rapid rises in river, stream and creek levels.
- **Second Round:** Widespread lowland flooding is possible and poor drainage urban areas may experience street flooding.

BEFORE:

- **Listen to the forecast:** Stay weather ready! Have two ways to receive weather alerts:
 - Have a NOAA battery-powered radio and download weather apps.
 - **Know the terms:**
 - Flash flood advisory:* be aware.
 - Flash flood watch:* prepare to act fast
 - Flash flood warning:* take action.
 - Flash flood warning:* is imminent or occurring. Go to higher ground.
 - **Have a flood safety plan:**
 - **Know where and how** if you must evacuate.
 - Know two alternative ways out of your neighborhood.
 - **Go kit:** Have an emergency "go kit" that is portable with enough supplies to sustain your family and pets for seven days.
 - **Home Inventory:** Create a home inventory with photos, videos, and receipts.
 - **Insurance:** Purchase flood insurance for home and business at www.floodsmart.gov.
 - **Pets:** Do not leave pets behind. Ensure pets are ready to evacuate with you.

DURING:

- **Never drive into floodwaters.**
- Six inches of water can knock an adult off their feet and cause loss of vehicle control. **Remember...Turn Around, Don't Drown!**
- NEVER drive around barricades.
- Use caution at night. You may not be able to see debris or flood water.

AFTER: Use caution! Check for structural damage before re-entering a structure.

End of Release.

Resource: National Weather Service: www.weather.gov