FLOODING OCCURS IN OREGON DUE TO OUR SEASONAL RAINFALL, SUMMER FIRES, MELTING SNOW, NEW DEVELOPMENT, AND LEVEE/DAMS. ALL INFLUENCE HOW WATER IS ABSORBED OR DIRECTED DOWNSTREAM. AREAS THAT HAVE NOT FLOODED IN THE PAST MAY FLOOD NOW DUE TO CHANGES THAT OCCURRED SOMEWHERE ELSE AND CAUSED A CHANGE IN HOW THE GROUND INTERACTS WITH THE WATER.

- Obey evacuation orders and follow local responder orders.
- Listen to local alerting systems for current emergency information and instructions.
- Turn off the electricity in your home.
- If your vehicle is trapped in rapidly moving water, then stay inside. If water is rising inside the vehicle, then seek refuge on the roof.
- If trapped in a building, then go to its highest level. Do not climb into a closed attic. Go on the roof only if necessary. Once there, signal for help.
- Do not walk through flowing water  
  - 6 inches of moving water can sweep a person off their feet  
- Do not drive through flooded areas  
  - Vehicles can “drown” in water that is too deep and create a rescue situation  
  - Vehicles can float in 12-24 inches of moving water  
- Be aware of the risk of electrocution. Stay away from power and electrical lines.

FLOODING PROTOCOLS

- Sign up for your community’s warning system
- Learn and practice evacuation routes, shelter plans, and flash flood response
- Develop an emergency preparedness kit
- Purchase or renew a flood insurance policy
- Protect your property  
  - Move valuable to higher levels  
  - Declutter drains and gutters  
  - Install check valves  
  - Keep important documents in a waterproof container

https://emergency.oregonstate.edu/emergency-preparedness/preparedness-topics  
https://www.ready.gov/floods  