

Maryland Department of Transportation Flooding Tips

Maryland is situated on the Mid-Atlantic coastline and is prone to receiving tropical storms that often lead to significant rainfall. Additionally, based on the geography of our State, spring and summer storm systems can make it across the mountainous region and re-develop into strong storm cells that affect millions of people in some of Maryland's most populated counties. Drivers and pedestrians should be extremely cautious and heed warnings issued by the National Weather Service during severe weather.

According to the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(NOAA\)](#), each year the number of deaths associated with flooding increases. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate more than half of flooding fatalities occur when drivers attempt to drive through high-water followed by those who attempt to walk through a flooded area.

NOAA statistics state that six inches of fast-moving water can knock an adult off of his/her feet. Just 12 inches of rushing water can strand a small vehicle, while 24 inches of fast flowing water can carry away most vehicles, including pickup trucks.

Here are some tips to avoid flood-related injury:

- “Turn around – Don’t Drown.” A driver, especially at night, has no idea how deep the water is or whether the road underneath is still intact. Pay attention to road signs that close roads.
- Delay commuting until precipitation moves away and stream and river flooding has a chance to recede and safe travel is possible.
- Pay close attention to local weather forecasts and plan accordingly.
- Be familiar with areas that have a history of flooding and plan an alternate route.
- Log onto www.md511.org or call 5-1-1 from a hands-free device to obtain the latest, real-time travel conditions.

For more information visit:

<https://youtu.be/el6mllHKrVY>

<https://youtu.be/jgn9RVau2QI>

<https://youtu.be/Wp2ChIOFYBw>