



Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: Guyana, Potential Flooding

Floods

Western Hemisphere > Guyana

2/3/2012

The U.S Embassy in Guyana cautions Americans to be alert to the possibilities of flooding. Current water levels are very high and more rain is expected over the next several days. Stay tuned to local forecasts and follow instructions from local authorities regarding road detours and other safety restrictions.

Below are some general FEMA guidelines on personal preparations, in the event of a flood.

Before a Flood

Prepare three days' worth of supplies, including food, clean water, flashlights, batteries, clothing, and multiple means of communications in the event you need to stay in the house. Prepare a bag or suitcase with personal items, including important documents and necessary medications in a waterproof container such as a "zip-loc" baggie, in the event your family needs to evacuate. Identify in-country evacuation routes and safe areas on higher ground.

During a Flood

Listen to the radio or television for the latest information. Be aware of streams, drainage channels, canals, low lying roadways and other areas known to flood suddenly. Flash floods can occur in these areas without warning. If you have to leave your home, remember these evacuation tips:

Do not walk through moving water. Six inches of moving water can make you fall. If you have to walk in water, walk where the water is not moving. Use a stick to check the firmness of the ground in front of you. Do not drive into flooded areas. If floodwaters rise around your car, abandon the car and move to higher ground if you can do so safely. You and the vehicle can be quickly swept away. **Driving in a Flood Facts**

Six inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars causing loss of control and possible stalling. A foot of water will float many vehicles. Two feet of rushing water can carry away most vehicles including sport utility vehicles (SUV's) and pick-ups. U.S. citizens may also call the Office of Overseas Citizens Services in the United States for the latest travel information. The Office of Overseas Citizens Services can be reached from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, Monday through Friday, by calling 1-888-407-4747 from within the U.S. and Canada, or by calling (202) 501-4444 from other countries.



Americans living or traveling in (name of country) are encouraged to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate through the State Department's travel registration website, <https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs/ui/> so that they can obtain updated information on travel and security within Guyana. Americans without Internet access may register directly with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. By registering, American citizens make it easier for the Embassy or Consulate to contact them in case of emergency. The U.S. Embassy is located at 100 Duke and Young Streets, Georgetown, Guyana. The day-time phone number is: 592-225-4900, ext 4222 for American Citizen Services. For after-hours emergency assistance to American Citizens, please call: 592-623-1992.