

DRIVING IN RAIN

Driving in heavy rain and flooding can be hazardous. If you are driving and find yourself in a heavy rain storm:

- Use headlights when visibility is reduced, no matter what time of day it is.
- Look out for large or fast-moving vehicles creating spray that can reduce visibility.
- Improve vision in wet weather by replacing windshield wipers if worn or damaged.
- Reduce your speed and leave more space between you and the vehicle in front to account for greater stopping distances – remember the two-second rule.
- Driving too fast through standing water could cause your tires to lose contact with the road. If your steering suddenly feels light you could be hydroplaning. To regain grip, ease off the accelerator, do not brake and allow your speed to reduce until you gain full control of the steering again.
- Double the distance between you and the car in front of you.
- If steering becomes unresponsive due to rain, ease off the accelerator and slow down gradually.

Flood of 1972

On June 9, 1972 a foggy, rainy day led the way for two areas of thunderstorms to collide in the afternoon of the Black Hills area dropping average of 6 inches of

with some reporting as much as 15 inches. The rain continued through the afternoon and into the evening. By 10:45pm Canyon Lake Dam failed, adding to the wall of water that poured through Rapid City as many were asleep in their beds. In all there were 238 deaths, 1335 homes and 5000 automobiles destroyed and 15 of the 23 bridges over Rapid Creek damaged or destroyed. Rapid City and the Black Hills would never be the same again.

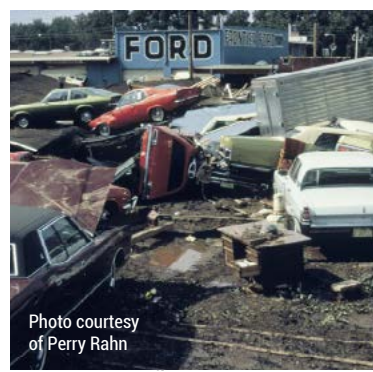


Photo courtesy of Perry Rahn



Photo courtesy of Journey Museum



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Rapid City-Pennington
County Emergency
Management



@penncoem2

Safety Tips for You
and Your Family

Flooding

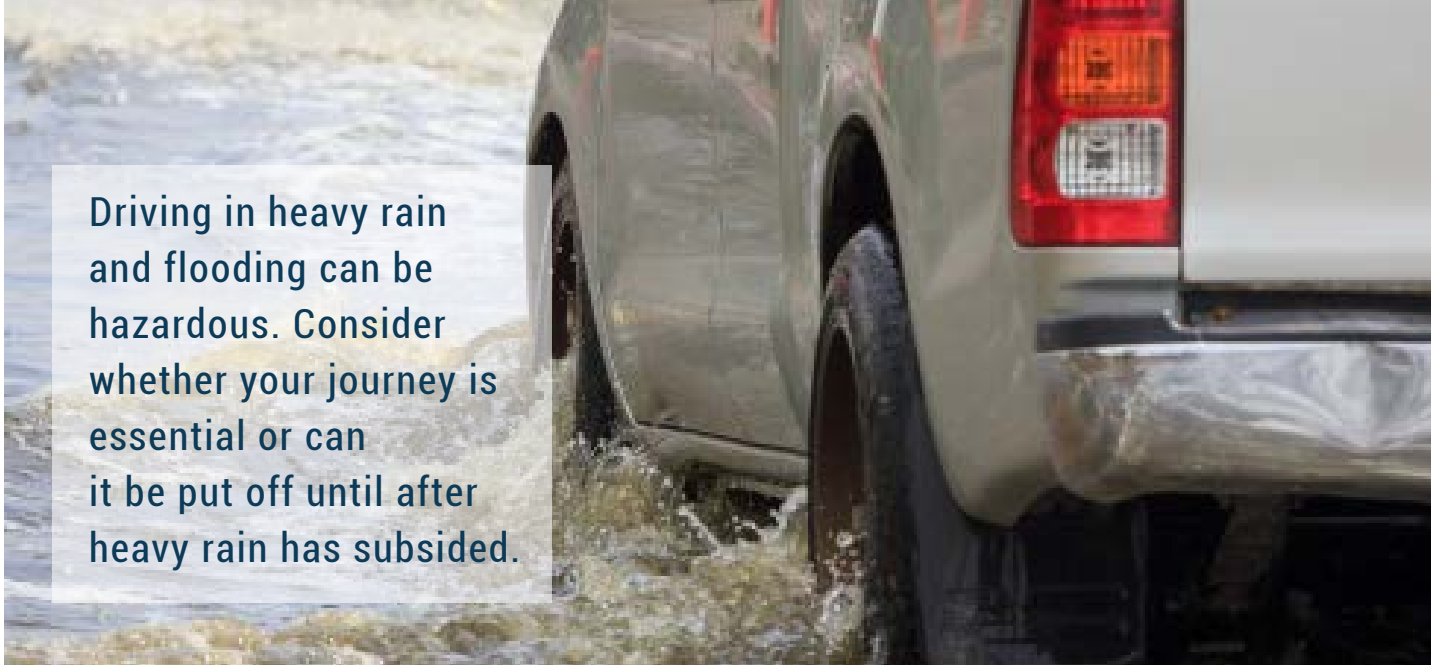
Keep An Eye On The Sky

At signs of an approaching storm...towering thunderheads, darkening skies, lightning and increased wind...tune in your portable or vehicle radio and listen for the latest weather information. What's the difference between the National Weather Service Advisory, Watch, and Warning.

FLOOD ADVISORY: A Flood Advisory is issued when flooding is not expected to be bad enough to issue a warning. However, it may cause significant inconvenience, and if caution is not exercised, it could lead to situations that may threaten life and/or property.

FLOOD WATCH: A Flood Watch is issued when conditions are favorable for flooding. It does not mean flooding will occur, but it is possible.

FLASH FLOOD WARNING: Take Action! A Flash Flood Warning is issued when a flash flood is imminent or occurring. If you are in a flood prone area move immediately to high ground. A flash flood is a sudden violent flood that can take from minutes to hours to develop. It is even possible to experience a flash flood in areas not immediately receiving rain.



Driving in heavy rain and flooding can be hazardous. Consider whether your journey is essential or can it be put off until after heavy rain has subsided.

FLASH FLOOD SAFETY

Flash flood waters move at incredible speed, roll boulders, tear out trees, and destroy buildings, roads, and bridges. Walls of water can reach 10 to 20 feet in height very quickly and without warning. The moment a flash flood warning is issued for your area or when you first realize that a flash flood is imminent, **act quickly** to save yourself. If advised to evacuate, do so immediately...you may have only seconds. Watch for signs of heavy rain upstream of your location or rising water. If you see rising water or a flash flood warning is issued, go to higher ground immediately! Follow evacuation instructions, but don't wait for them if you think you are in danger. **Act quickly to save yourself--you may have only seconds to escape danger.**

IN GENERAL:

- Go to high ground immediately.
- Leave canyons, valleys, and other low-lying areas. Go to high ground immediately!
- Do not try to cross a flowing stream on foot. You can be pushed over by flowing water only six inches deep!
- Do not place your vehicle, camper, or tent along streams, creeks, or washes, particularly during threatening weather. Do not place your vehicle, camper or tent in areas where your only exit crosses a stream. Choose campsites away from creeks and other low-lying areas.
- When water threatens your campsite, leave immediately. Do not attempt to save your camper, tent, clothing, or other personal belongings.

DRIVING ON FLOODED ROADWAYS:

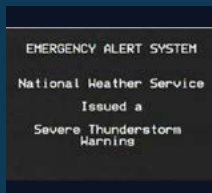
- Flood water can wash a vehicle from the roadway and the road under the water may no longer be intact. **NEVER drive through water if you don't know how deep it is.** Watch for flooded bridges and low areas in the road. Six inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars; this depth can cause loss of control or possible stalling as water is sucked into the exhaust or washes into the air intake.
- Your vehicle can be swept away by flowing water in as little as one foot of water - this can be extremely dangerous because as the wheels lose grip, you lose control. Be especially cautious at night when flood waters are difficult to see.
- If your vehicle stalls, abandon it immediately and seek higher ground. Rising flood water may engulf and sweep it away.

EMERGENCY MESSAGING

TV and Radio
EAS Notification

Weather Radio
All-Hazards

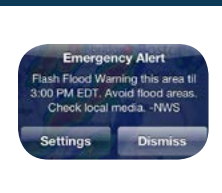
Wireless
Emergency Alert



Outdoor Warning Sirens



Public Warning Messages



Public Warning Messages

Get warnings when you need it and how you want it.

Registration is simple. You pick the delivery method: text, email or phone call.

www.rcpcem.com

