

Centerton Planning Department
290 Main St., PO Box 208
Centerton, AR 72719
(479) 795-2750 Ext. 21/22



Protect Yourself From the Hazard

Have a plan...

- Know where you will evacuate to, and the best way to get there.
- Have necessary supplies kit(s) ready to use.
 - **Home:**
 - Keep it in a designated place, make sure everyone in the family knows where it is.
 - It should contain essential food, water, and supplies for at least three days.
 - If you have pets, assemble a kit for them too! Don't forget food, water, medications, veterinary records, and identification tags.
 - **Work:**
 - One container that is ready to grab and go in case you are evacuated from your workplace.
 - Make sure you have food and water, and comfortable walking shoes.
 - **Car:**
 - Your kit should contain food, water, first aid supplies, flares, jumper cables, and seasonal supplies.

If an evacuation order has been issued...

Unplug electrical equipment, such as radios and televisions, and small appliances, such as toasters and microwaves.

- Turn off gas, electricity, and water to the house.
- Know the difference between a **mandatory** and **voluntary evacuation**. If your city or municipality officials order a voluntary evacuation of the area it is up to an individual's discretion to evacuate.
- Mandatory evacuations are designed to keep residents safe and residents **must and should** leave their homes and the area at risk to seek shelter in a safer area.
- Follow these instructions to evacuate yourself and your family: <https://www.ready.gov/evacuating-yourself-and-your-family>.
- Plan ahead, know the evacuation routes in your area and have a plan in place that all members of the household are aware of.
- Keep family members, neighbors, and other local friends informed of your evacuation plans. Alert them when you chose to evacuate to your planned destination. Designate a contact

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outside of the affected area to know your plan and whereabouts should communication fail within the area of risk.

- When the possibility of evacuation nears make sure to keep a full tank of gas in your car and throughout your trip away try keep it at half full to avoid breakdowns on congested roads.
- Check other fluid levels in the car, the air pressure in tires, and ensure that the vehicle chosen for evacuation can handle a long trip.

Flood Safety...

- **Do not walk through flowing water.** Drowning is the number one cause of flood deaths, mostly during flash floods. Currents can be deceptive; six inches of moving water can knock you off your feet. If you walk in standing water, use a pole or stick to ensure that the ground is still there.
- **Do not drive through a flooded area.** More people drown in their cars than anywhere else. Don't drive around road barriers; the road or bridge may be washed out.
- **Stay away from power lines and electrical wires.** The second leading cause of death after drowning is electrocution. Electrical current can travel through water. Report downed power lines to the Power Company or City immediately.
- **Have your electricity turned off by the Power Company.** Some appliances, such as television sets, keep electrical charges even after they have been unplugged. Don't use appliances or motors that have gotten wet unless they have been taken apart, cleaned, and dried.
- **Watch for animals, especially snakes.** Small animals that have been flooded out of their homes may seek shelter in yours. Use a pole or stick to turn things over and scare away small animals.
- **Look before you step.** After a flood, the ground and floors are covered with debris including broken bottles and nails. Floors and stairs that have been covered with mud can be very slippery.
- **Be alert for gas leaks.** Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Don't smoke or use candles, lanterns, or open flames, unless you know the gas has been turned off and the area has been ventilated.