



TURN AROUND

DON'T DROWN

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How deep is that water?

Don't try to find out! If you are driving in a car or truck and come upon a flooded roadway, stop your vehicle. Find an alternate route to your destination, or if necessary, "shelter in place," and simply stay put until rescue personnel can evacuate you or you can safely cross the roadway.

It is tempting to try to "push through" a small amount of water to get home to loved ones during an emergency flood event. But despite what you see on car and truck commercials, as little as 12-16 inches of water can cause you to lose control of your vehicle. And it can be difficult to tell how much water is on the road: sometimes, what appears to be only an inch or two of water is in fact much deeper, and the motorist who drives through unsuspecting can be quickly trapped in their car or truck. Nighttime conditions make it even more difficult to determine how deep is the water on a roadway.

Flooded roads present one of the greatest threats from flooding. More than half of flood fatalities occur from drivers moving their cars into floodwaters, often at intersections known to flood, and often, ironically, in a hurry to get safely home during a flood event. These losses can be avoided if people make the decision to stop and turn around, rather than attempt to drive through flooded roadways.

The National Weather Service encourages a very common sense approach to vehicle safety in flood waters:

"Turn Around, Don't Drown."

Learn more at

<http://www.floodsafety.noaa.gov/tadd.shtml>

www.focusonfloods.org

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