Flash Flood Safety Tips

• Remember water is powerful. Six inches of rushing water can knock people off their feet. Twelve inches of water can stall vehicles (including trucks/SUVs) and less than two feet of moving water can carry them away. Plus, there may be the additional dangers of debris and contamination from trash or other hazardous materials.

• Be aware of changing weather conditions. Fast-moving water can fill streets within seconds. An upstream storm can send water crashing through normally-dry gulches and streams when local conditions are sunny and dry. Additionally, runoff water will continue to flow down the mountains and hillsides well after storms have passed through neighborhoods.

• Never walk, drive, swim or play in standing or moving floodwaters being conveyed by rivers or streams. Don’t drive into a flooded street. Never drive around a barricade.

• Know where children are. Keep children away from storm water impoundments, ponds, irrigation canals and drainage channels.

• Never attempt a rescue. The ACFR Water Rescue team has the proper training, equipment and safety precautions to go into the water. Don’t become a victim as well; call 9-1-1 instead.

• For a “Turn Around, Don’t Drown” PSA, visit:  
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=el6mIlHKrVY&feature=youtu.be