

GET INVOLVED!
Nevada Flood Awareness Week (FAW)
Ideas for Local Activities, Events

To plan an event or activity in your county or town, work with your community partners. Don't do it alone. Reach out to local emergency response and preparedness groups for advice or assistance in coordinating events and educating your community about preparedness. One easy way to get exposure is to participate in Existing Events and Meetings that are already planned and scheduled. It is a great way to reach your community members. Activities do not necessarily need to occur only during the actual Flood Awareness Week.

Counties/Cities:

- Staff Report to Board - Annual status of flood protection in your county report can be scheduled to coincide with FAW. Schedule a staff report on a key flood protection item (i.e., updates on flood insurance maps, programs). Include the need for public awareness of flood risk and highlight FAW. Complement with a press release that calls attention to the staff report and Flood Awareness Week.
- Proclamations - Ask your mayor to sign a proclamation for this important community event.
- Flood Event Exercise - a functional or tabletop exercise may involve multiple jurisdictions demonstrating mutual aid, improve coordination & communication.
- Slideshow Presentation - general emergency preparedness PowerPoint presentation to educate your community, employees, members, customers, or other local organizations and businesses. (www.community.fema.gov). Templates for Nevada Flood Awareness PowerPoints will be provided for use in all communities by Cooperative Extension.
- FLOOD HISTORY in Nevada communities: On www.NevadaFloods.org, we want to create a list of towns in Nevada, so people can click on their hometown and see photos of major floods, maps of what parts of town flooded, and other details of the top 3-6 river and/or flash floods to strike that town in recorded history. Please help us by forwarding details and photos of your major past flood events! We will post them.
- Brochures/Flyers: Cooperative Extension will provide electronic versions of fact sheets and brochures on flooding in Nevada.
- Banner - Add a web image to your website throughout summer and fall. www.community.fema.gov
- Posters - Display for visibility and awareness. www.community.fema.gov
- Exhibits - Reserve library or museum space in your community for FAW exhibits
- Flood Preparedness Meetings – Presentations done by county supervisor, city council members, Police / Fire Chiefs, community movers & shakers. Venues - neighborhood centers, Rotary, Senior Centers, local businesses. Topics - flood risk to local communities, status of flood protection efforts & improvements, evacuation routes, sources of accurate information, roles of

various agencies, actions residents take to be prepared. Have plentiful handouts, can have very high exposure.

- Safety/Preparedness Fair - One or more communities. Partnership with NGOs (Red Cross, local fire department) and private sector (Hardware Stores, Schools). Could feature items to include in an emergency kit. Easy to fit into a pre-existing event format. Have a fire engine, etc., present to draw families.

Communities/Groups-

- Organize a Business Owners Group: Up to 40% of businesses never recover after a major disaster. Plan to stay in business. <http://youtu.be/2U0EFYKGn50>

Does your small business have an emergency response plan? Download FREE planning tools: <http://www.Ready.gov/business> "Get Your Business Prepared- Floods" 15 sec PSA

- Form a Local Citizen Corps Council – Does your community receive support from Citizen Corps Councils and Citizen Corps' program. Support for you, your family, first responders, and your community in an emergency. www.citizencorps.gov
- Form a Pet Owners Group - Remember Your Pets! Get your Pet and preparedness kit: www.Ready.gov/animals
- Form a Seniors Group www.Ready.gov/seniors "Preparing makes sense for Older Americans" (Closed Captioning & American Sign Language) <http://youtu.be/SByTKf2rrlg>

SCOUT TROOPS:

Do you know what to do in an emergency situation? Feel the connection with your community and learn to identify community needs and actions to support public safety.

Boy Scout [Emergency Preparedness merit badge](#)

Girl Scout [Emergency Preparedness Patch program](#)

General Public -

- Individuals - take a few simple actions, you can make your family safer. Be Informed | Make a Plan | Build a Kit | Get Involved, Throw a Block Party!!

Schools: Invite officials from your local Office of Emergency Management or First Responder Teams to speak at schools or youth events. School Assembly to talk about natural disasters and what to do. DRI "Green Boxes" - These materials to include science-based activities such as calculations regarding flood size, frequency, and response (e.g. materials needed for sand bagging of a specified area)

For EDUCATORS- Offer a day of flood exercises during science class

- <http://www.atozteacherstuff.com/Themes/Weather/index.shtml>
- Grades 3-4. Victoria State Emergency Service (SES) has developed an educational [flood investigation game](#) which encourages the identification and learning about hazardous objects

which can be found in floodwater and cause harm. The lesson can be conducted before or after the game has been played and assists in consolidating students' learning and understanding.

- [Water, Water Everywhere](#). Grade 5. Students learn about floods, discovering that different types of floods occur from different water sources, but primarily from heavy rainfall.
- [Flood!](#) This site considers the consequences of flooding as well as the benefits to human civilization. It is thorough and comprehensive. It includes teacher resources.
- [Rain & Floods](#) - Weather Wiz Kids®. FAQs designed by meteorologist Crystal Wicker. This website is for kids to allow them to learn more about the fascinating world of weather. It's also a wonderful educational website for teachers and parents to give them the right tools to explain the different types of weather to children.
- [National Geographic](#) - All ages. Excellent information on different types of flooding events worldwide.
- Lessons that explain riverine floods and alluvial fan flash floods.

RESOURCES and Other Websites

Carson River Watershed Regional Floodplain Management Plan, Carson River Coalition, Flood, American Red Cross, <http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/flood>

Floods, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), <http://www.ready.gov/floods/> Key Facts about Flood Readiness, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

National Flood Insurance Program: <http://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/> you are eligible to purchase flood insurance as long as your community participates in the National Flood Insurance Program. People need to know that their homeowners insurance will not pay for flood damages!

http://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/pages/about/nfip_overview.jsp

PARTNERS to keep in mind:

Local City and County agencies: schools, colleges, airports, Cooperative Extension, etc. Community Organizations: Water Reclamation Facilities & Utilities, Civic groups, Church groups. State agencies: Nevada State Legislature, Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources, Dept. of Wildlife

Private Sector: Lowes, Walmart, Home Depot, Hardware Stores, etc.

Federal Agencies: Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Mgmt., USACE, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Tribal Communities

MEDIA CAMPAIGN:

The Core Team of the Nevada FAW Advisory Committee is currently developing not only an informative website, but also a Media Campaign to get the Flood Awareness message out to the public. We plan to use multiple channels to reach out: TV, radio, billboards, bus ads, marquee ads, social media, etc. We plan to air ads on stations that will reach many Nevada communities, not just those in Washoe, Carson City and Douglas Counties. (We are not working in Clark County, because they already have a well-funded public outreach program.) We will try for a consistent "look" with consistent messages, such as

our SLOGAN: “Nevada Floods! Are You Prepared?” The main message of our ads will be to direct people to our website, www.NevadaFloods.org.

The consequences of flooding can be devastating. Just a few inches of water from a flood can cause tens of thousands of dollars in damage. Flood damaged homes usually can't be occupied while being repaired, so rent as well as the mortgage must be paid. When things like photos are lost in flooding, so are personal and family histories.

For more information about how to obtain assistance in planning Flood Awareness Week in your community, contact Kayla Meyer, Public Outreach Manager (kmeyer@water.nv.gov) or Bunny Bishop at the Nevada Division of Water Resources, Office of the State Floodplain Manager (775-684-2834 or bbishop@water.nv.gov).