

NEWS



Edward A. Diana
Orange County Executive

September 30, 2011

For Immediate Release

09-30-11 THIS WEEK IN ORANGE COUNTY BY EDWARD A. DIANA

The ground is saturated, the streams and rivers are rushing, and the ponds and lakes are full to the banks, yet the rain continues to come. With more rain in the forecast for the days ahead, it's critical that we remain mindful of the power of water and the dangers of flooding.

When traveling on the roads, follow this advice from the Orange County Emergency Management team:

- Leave early to avoid being marooned on flooded roads. Follow recommended routes. Do not sightsee.
- As you travel, monitor local radio broadcasts for the latest information.
- Watch for washed-out roads, earthslides, broken water or sewer mains, loose or downed electrical wires, and falling or fallen objects.
- Watch for areas where rivers or streams may suddenly rise and flood, such as highway dips, bridges, and low areas.
- Do not attempt to drive over a flooded road. Turn around and go another way.
- If you are in your car and water begins to rise rapidly around you, abandon the vehicle immediately.
- When driving your automobile during flood conditions, look out for flooding at highway dips, bridges, and low areas.
- Even the largest and heaviest of vehicles will float. Water moving at two miles per hour can sweep cars off a road or bridge.
- As little as six inches of water may cause you to lose control of your vehicle. Do not drive through flowing water!
- Driving too fast through low water will cause the vehicle to hydroplane and lose contact with the road surface.
- Visibility is limited at night increasing the vulnerability of the driver to any hidden dangers. Heed all flood and flash flood watches

For the latest weather, safety, and emergency information, visit www.nyalert.gov. You can even sign up to have alerts sent directly to your email or phone. Also, check out the Facebook page OrangeCounty EmergencyManagement.

Until next week be healthy and safe – and think sunny thoughts!

Edward A. Diana, County Executive