Floods are the nation’s #1 natural disaster.

Nearly 50 percent of all flash flood fatalities nationwide involve vehicles. Saving your life can be as easy as turning your car around when you see water on the road. Never attempt to drive through flooded roadways.

Even in relatively shallow water, tires can act as flotation devices, lifting up big vehicles and sending them downstream. It takes only two feet of water to float a 3,000-pound car.

Beware that water covering roadways may hide washed-out bridges or gouged-out roadbeds. If you attempt to drive across, you may not be driving on a road.

Keep away from downed power lines and any other electrical wires.

If you are in a low-lying area when flooding is occurring, get to higher ground quickly. Be sure to avoid canyons and washes that can channel swift water.

Do not attempt to cross flooded roads or streams on foot. It can take as little as six inches of water to knock an adult off his or her feet. Furthermore, water may be flowing more rapidly than it appears.

During stormy weather, do not camp or park vehicles along streams or washes.

Be cautious at night when it is harder to see flood dangers.

**Tune in to the Local Radio Emergency Information**

Tune into radio stations for emergency information. The stations are: KNMB, 96.7 FM; KWES, 93.5 FM; KIDX, 101.5 FM; KRUI, 1490 AM; KBUY, 1360 AM; KEDU 102.3 FM; and KWES, 1450 AM

**National Weather Service Ruidoso Regional**