

FLASH FLOOD... the most dangerous!

What are they?

- They are consequence of storms that occur on a small and rugged surface, for example, those with steep slopes; they occur in minutes and the time to evacuate is minimal
- Consist of mudflows, which travel at high speed and raze the objects found in its path, showing its great destructive power
- In Mexico they have caused serious damage and loss of life, such as those caused by Hurricane Pauline in Acapulco, Guerrero, in 1997

FACTORS WHICH THAT CAUSE THEM



Canyons and rivers
with steep slopes



Deforestation



Degradation of soil



Changes in land use



Sudden release of water
contained in a dam or reservoir



MAIN EFFECTS

- Erosion in highlands
- Damage to hillsides and agricultural areas
- Sediment dragging to low lands
- Obstruction in drainage
- Deposit of sediment in dams, reducing its storage capacity

Learn more

National Water Committee
www.gob.mx/conagua

National Center for Disasters Prevention
www.gob.mx/cenapred

Source:
National Water Commission

HOW TO PREVENT



Respects the
use of land



Avoid human settlements
near rivers, canyons
and reservoirs



Promote
reforestation for
the rainwater catchment



Obey the
Civil Protection
indications



Inform yourself
about the warnings
and forecasts of rain



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More about of floods...

Mexico is located between two great oceans; therefore, every year tropical cyclones that cause heavy rains are formed, and in addition the topography of the country is mostly steep. Both factors lead the flash flooding to affect much of the country in a recurrent manner

A flood is the invasion of water in places where usually there is not

The General Civil Protection Law recognizes various types of flooding:



Rain floods

They happen when the terrain is saturated and unable to absorb more water, it causes the accumulation of the excess rain for hours or days



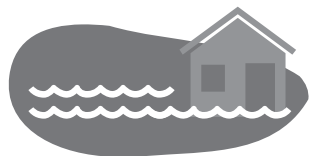
River floods

They are generated when the overflowing water from rivers remains on the ground surface



Coastal floods

Occur when mean sea level rises due to the hurricane storm tide and waves, covering large tracts of land



Lake floods

Due to the increase of the average level in a body of water (wetlands, lakes, lagoons, among others)



Classification according to the time they occur:

Slow floods

They occur in large areas of low slope; they usually occur within days, giving a chance to evacuate



Flash floods

Those that occur within minutes due to heavy rainfalls over a small surface with steep slopes, related to mudslides; for this reason, they are considered the most dangerous floods

If you live near rivers, ravines or dams...



Identify safe areas
(highland) before the flood



Keep yourself
aware of the weather
and civil protection alerts



Enhance the
communication with
Civil Protection authorities



Keep important
documents in sealed
plastic bags



If necessary
go to the temporary shelter,
carry only essential items



Do not try to cross
overflowing rivers
or streams

During the rainy season is more likely that it will happen