



# National Weather Service

## Definitions for New York State



### FLOODING



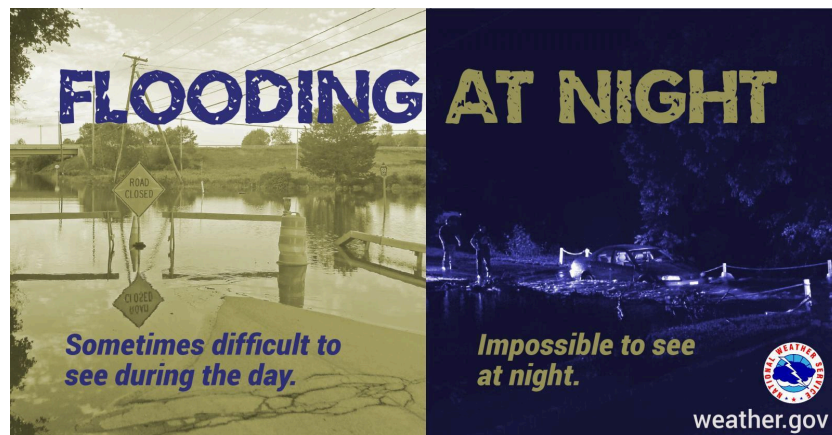
**MINOR FLOODING** - minimal or no property damage, but possibly some public threat or inconvenience.

**MODERATE FLOODING** - some inundation of structures and roads near streams/ivers; some evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher ground elevations necessary.

**MAJOR FLOODING** - extensive inundation of structures and roads; significant evacuations of people and/or transfer of property to higher elevations.



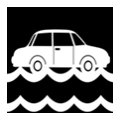
**FLOOD ADVISORY /BE AWARE/** - issued when flooding is not expected to be bad enough to issue a warning. However, it may cause significant inconvenience, and if caution is not exercised, it could lead to situations that may threaten life and/or property.





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### FLOODING



**FLOOD WATCH /BE PREPARED/** - issued when conditions are favorable for flooding. It does not mean flooding will occur, but it is possible.

**FLOOD WARNING /TAKE ACTION/** - issued when flooding is imminent or already happening.

The infographic is split into two columns. The left column is titled 'FLOOD WATCH' in yellow. Below the title, it says 'A Flood Watch is issued when flooding is possible.' in yellow. Then, 'Stay tuned to trusted news sources and be ready to seek higher ground.' in white. At the bottom, it says 'Be Prepared.' in yellow. The right column is titled 'FLOOD WARNING' in orange. Below the title, it says 'A Flood Warning is issued when flooding is happening or about to happen.' in orange. Then, 'Move to higher ground immediately! Never drive or walk through floodwaters.' in white. At the bottom, it says 'Take Action!' in orange. The background is a dark, grainy image of floodwaters. The NOAA logo and 'weather.gov' are at the bottom left.

FLOOD WATCH	FLOOD WARNING
A Flood Watch is issued when flooding is possible.	A Flood Warning is issued when flooding is happening or about to happen.
Stay tuned to trusted news sources and be ready to seek higher ground.	Move to higher ground immediately! Never drive or walk through floodwaters.
Be Prepared.	Take Action!

**FLASH FLOOD WARNING /TAKE ACTION/** - issued when flooding is imminent or occurring. A flash flood is a sudden violent flood that can take from minutes to hours to develop. It is even possible to experience a flash flood in areas not immediately receiving rain. Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) is issued when a “Considerable” tag is used.

**FLASH FLOOD EMERGENCY** – Issued when a severe threat to human life and catastrophic damage from a flash flood is happening or will happen soon. Issuance is rare. Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) is issued (“Catastrophic” tag).

The infographic is split into two columns. The left column is titled 'Flash Flood EMERGENCY' in yellow. Below the title, it says 'ISSUED FOR... Exceedingly rare situations when a severe threat to human life and catastrophic damage from a flash flood is happening or will happen soon.' in yellow. Then, 'This is a life-threatening situation! Do not attempt to travel unless you are fleeing an area subject to flooding or under an evacuation order.' in white. The right column is titled 'Flash Flood WARNING' in green. Below the title, it says 'ISSUED WHEN... Dangerous flash flooding is happening or will happen soon. Some roads will be flooded. Homes and businesses may flood.' in green. Then, 'Move to higher ground. Never drive through flooded roads.' in white. The background is a dark, grainy image of floodwaters. The NOAA logo and 'weather.gov' are at the bottom right.

Flash Flood EMERGENCY	Flash Flood WARNING
ISSUED FOR... Exceedingly rare situations when a severe threat to human life and catastrophic damage from a flash flood is happening or will happen soon.	ISSUED WHEN... Dangerous flash flooding is happening or will happen soon. Some roads will be flooded. Homes and businesses may flood.
This is a life-threatening situation! Do not attempt to travel unless you are fleeing an area subject to flooding or under an evacuation order.	Move to higher ground. Never drive through flooded roads.