



MEDIA CONTACT (Office) 775-782-9821
Melissa Blosser, Public Information Officer mblosser@co.douglas.nv.us
Douglas County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEWS RELEASE

Turn Around Don't Drown Campaign

Minden NV.- The National Weather Service's (NWS) "Turn Around Don't Drown" campaign, is highlighting flash flooding hot spots along roads in Douglas County. To raise awareness about public safety during flash flood events, NWS has donated 12 "Turn Around Don't Drown" yellow road signs to Douglas County. These signs are being installed on the East side of the Carson Valley, in places such as Johnson Lane, Fish Springs, the Pinenuts, and Ruhestroth neighborhoods.

The small creeks and the typically dry washes that flow into the Carson Valley from the surrounding mountains are susceptible to occasional flash floods. From their canyons or ravines, a wall of water can rush onto the valley floor just minutes or hours after an intense summer thundershower has drenched the headwaters a few miles upstream. These alluvial fan floods are normally associated with intense summer thunderstorms. Localized flooding occurs during these larger storm events, which are common in the Northern Nevada high-desert environment.

Douglas County has declared July 2016 as Flash Flood Awareness Month and recognizes flash flooding is an issue that our residents face each year. The following information in an effort to bring awareness to both the causes of flash flooding and recommendations for what residents can help do to prepare should you encounter a flash flood.

Turn Around Don't Drown:

- If flooding occurs, get to higher ground. Get out of areas subject to flooding. This includes dips, low spots, drainage ditches, canyons, washes etc.
- Road beds may be washed out under flood waters. NEVER drive through flooded roadways - you do not know the condition of the road under the water. Turn around, don't drown.
- Do not drive into flooded areas. If floodwaters rise around your car, abandon the car and move to higher ground if you can do so safely. You and the vehicle can be quickly swept away.
- A foot of water will float many vehicles; two feet of rushing water can carry away most vehicles, including SUVs and pick-ups.

For more information, visit: <http://www.douglascountynv.gov/1155/Flash-Flooding>.

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