Franklin County residents are asked to be on the look out for flooded roadways and be prepared to respond quickly should flooding occur in their area.

To better protect your home or business from possible flooding, the following tips are suggested...

* Familiarize yourself with flood warning signs and community alert signals.
* Plan an evacuation route that avoids areas that might be prone to flooding. Anticipate heavy traffic.
* Keep disaster supplies available and on hand
    - o Flashlights and extra batteries
    - o Portable battery-operated radio (extra batteries) tuned to a local station, and follow emergency instructions
    - o First aid kit, basic medicines, etc.
    - o Bottled water & non-perishable food
    - o Non-electric can opener
    - o Essential medications
    - o Cash and credit cards
    - o Night flares

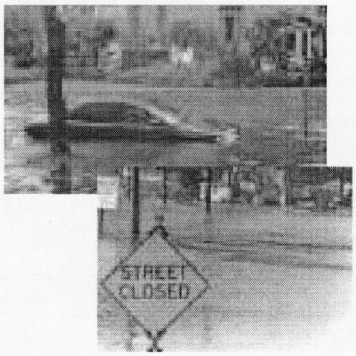
* Develop a plan for getting back together if the family becomes separated. (Ask someone out-of-state to serve as a family contact since it is usually easier to call long distance during a local crisis. Be sure that everyone knows the name, address, and phone number of the contact person.)
* Show all family members how to turn off electricity, water, and gas.

IF YOU HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED OF A FLOOD WATCH....

* Follow local radio and TV news for storm information.
* Secure/remove outdoor belongings, patio furniture, pets, etc.
* Store/move valuable possessions to upper floors or to safer ground.
* In the event an evacuation order is issued, turn off all utilities from the main switch and shut off the gas main.

IF FLOODING IS EMINENT...

* Tune in a battery-operated radio or TV to follow emergency information.
* Prepare emergency supplies.
* Review contingency plans and how to re-establish contact.
* Prepare to evacuate.

IF YOU ARE INVOLVED IN A FLOOD...

* Leave home early enough to avoid heavy traffic and/or becoming marooned from flooded roads.
* Climb to the highest ground and stay there in the event you become entrapped by a flood.
* Never walk through floodwaters. Never drive your car through a flooded area. If your car stalls, leave it immediately seeking higher ground. Attempting to save a stalled vehicle can result in death.