

From: City of Marengo, Marengo Fire Protection District & Marengo Rescue Squad

Due to the recent weather and upcoming forecasts we would like to inform the community of various hazards that may be encountered. In anticipation of possible substantial rainfall the community should be aware of specific problems that may occur. Flash floods, flooded basements and sewer backups are situations that should not be taken lightly. If you come upon any of these situations please follow these precautions:

- ② In the event that a sewer backup occurs call the Marengo Public Works Department immediately at 568-8972. Should the backup occur outside of regularly scheduled Public Works hours, (7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) call the Marengo Police Department at 568-7231. In case of an emergency call 911 immediately.
- ② Do not go into your basement or other areas when water has come into contact with anything that uses electricity, such as extension cords, outlets, or appliances. Stay out of the basement until the electricity has been turned off and emergency personnel have verified there are no hazards.
- ② When water comes into contact with the gas valves in your furnace or hot water heater they have a tendency to stay open. To ensure that you don't have a gas leak in your home shut off the gas supplying these appliances. Contact a heating and air contractor before turning the gas back on.
- ② If you have sustained damage, you should contact your insurance carrier as soon as possible. It is recommended that you take pictures of the damaged areas.
- ② If you believe you have been exposed to any harmful material contact your primary health care physician and advise them of the situation.
- ② Do not attempt to walk or drive through any type of standing or moving water without knowing the depth of the water. The current may push you or your vehicle off the roadway causing you to become trapped.
- ② Do not allow children to play in retention ponds, ditches, or any other areas that have become flooded due to unknown depths and currents. Residents should not swim in potentially contaminated flood water.

- ② Heed all warnings with appropriate reactions. Flash flood warnings are just that. Rapid development of water can be deceiving so please be aware of changing conditions.
- ② When lightening is present move indoors immediately
- ② After coming in contact with flood water it is important to wash off with soap and water. Open wounds in particular should be cleansed immediately as they are susceptible to various infections.

Flash floods can be very difficult to predict and monitor and therefore need to be taken very seriously. Remember, in the event of an emergency dial 911 immediately. If you have any questions regarding these very important issues, please feel free to call City Hall at 568-7112.