

# Floods

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## Description

A flood is when water covers land that is normally dry. When it rains a lot at one time, rivers fill up and flood. If snow and ice on a river melt quickly, there can be a flood. Lakes and seas can also flood. Hurricanes cause floods on the coast. Sometimes a dam breaks and causes a flood. The water travels very fast in a flood.

## Location

Floods have happened all over the world. Floods have happened in every state in the United States.

## Dangers

Floods are dangerous because they destroy homes and other property. People get hurt and killed in floods. Floods wash away the soil, so the land can no longer be farmed.

## Preparation and Safety

To stop floods, people build dams and channels to hold back the water. They also build dikes, levees, flood walls, and hurricane barriers. During a flood, people should stay out of low lying areas. They should not drive on flooded roads. They should not walk through moving water.

## Interesting Facts

An interesting fact is that flood water can cover a house. Another interesting fact is that a flash flood happens within minutes or hours of a heavy rain.

