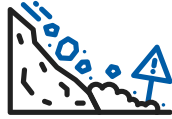




# Storm Hazards

In the City of Los Angeles, storm hazards develop after heavy rainfall in a short period, which may result in the temporary overflow of water in normally dry areas. This can lead to various storm-related hazards to people and infrastructure.

## Common LA Storm Hazards



### Landslides



### Flooding



### Strong winds

Storm hazards include flooding, landslides, and strong winds. They can damage public infrastructure such as transportation, utilities, housing, communication, and roads. Public health and safety is a main concern, as mortality among our unhoused spikes during winter storms, thus public health and safety is the focus of this fact sheet. We ask that you read and apply these tips to prepare to keep yourself, your loved ones, and your community safe! Disaster can strike anywhere, and at any time.

## Learn the Risks

- Timely info on weather conditions can make a big difference. Learn about alerts and warnings: [\*\*Ready.gov/Alerts\*\*](https://www.ready.gov/alerts)
- Learn the flood risk in your area with FEMA's Flood Map: [\*\*MSC.FEMA.gov\*\*](https://www.msc.fema.gov)
- Learn what to do before, during, and after a flood: [\*\*Ready.gov/Floods\*\*](https://www.ready.gov/floods)
- Learn how to shut off the utilities where you live, including water, electricity, and gas. Refer to the [\*\*LADWP's Homeowner's Guide\*\*](#) for more information.
- Check your insurance policies for disaster coverage. Don't wait until it's too late!
- Prepare your neighbors and community to respond to emergencies. [\*\*Community Emergency Response Team \(CERT\)\*\*](#) training is available.
- Sign up for emergency alerts at [\*\*NotifyLA.org\*\*](https://www.notifyla.org).

## Prepare Today LA

- Review your [\*\*Family Emergency Plan\*\*](#) for evacuation routes, shelter plans and response. Be sure to plan for pets, older adults, and those with special needs.
- Go-Bag: Keep important documents and emergency supplies in a waterproof bag.
- Prepare storefronts and business sites: [\*\*Ready.LACity.gov/Business-Preparedness\*\*](https://www.ready.lacity.gov/business-preparedness)
- Snap pictures of your property and do an inventory. Save for insurance purposes.
- Stock your [\*\*emergency supply kit\*\*](#) to prepare for water and power outages, and include food, water, and emergency supplies to last several days.
- Protect your home with sandbags, free at [\*\*all LAFD locations\*\*](#).
- Check vehicle wipers, lights, tire inflation, and tread wear to assure safe operation in stormy weather.

## Stay Safe

- Evacuate immediately, if told by official sources or listen to your instincts. Floods, landslides, and extreme weather can develop quickly.
- Listen for local alert systems and current emergency information and instructions regarding flooding.
- Secure all windows and doors, and any loose objects outside.
- Turn Around, Don't Drown! Avoid driving or stepping into moving water. Just 6 inches of moving water can knock you off your feet.
- Maintain safe distance from power and gas lines. Report damage immediately to LADWP.
- Call 9-1-1 if you are experiencing a medical emergency.
- Call 3-1-1 for unhoused support and shelter information prior to a storm.
- Visit [\*\*Hazard Mapper\*\*](#) for more storm hazard risk area info.



# Emergency Management Department



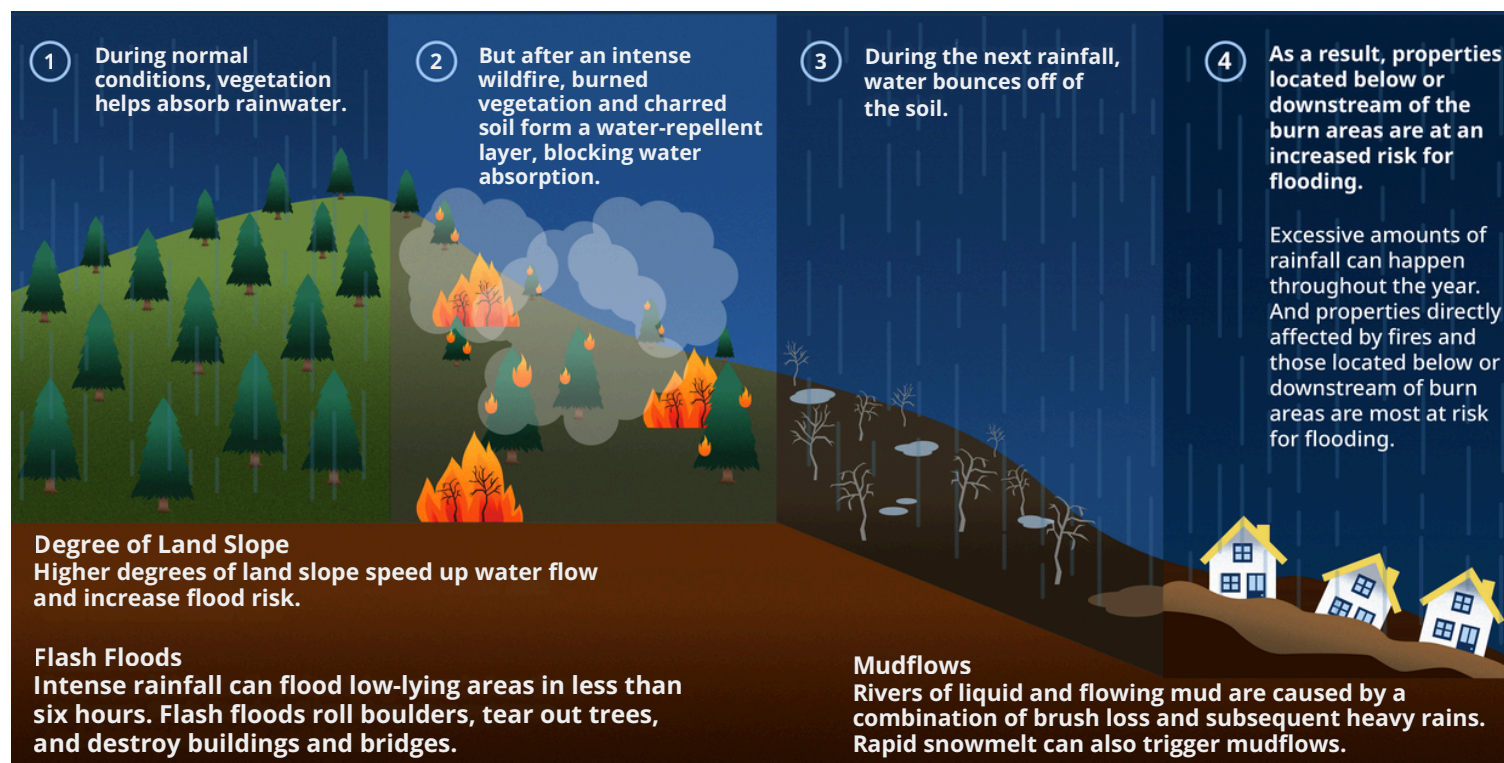
The City has identified its climate vulnerabilities through the City of Los Angeles' **Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA)**, and developed climate hazard mitigation strategies in its **Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP)**, along with protocols for response in the **Adverse Weather Annex**. These plans support the City's response to various climate hazards, such as debris flow and landslides.

Debris flow is a fast-moving mass of material - slurries of water, rock, soil, vegetation, and even boulders and trees – that moves downhill by sliding, flowing, and/or falling. Debris flow and mudslides are forms of landslides that result from fast-moving stormwater on slopes that lack vegetation and stability. The accumulation of water from prolonged rainfall and/or saturated subsurfaces creates risks for homes and developments.

Keep an eye on areas at greater risk of landslides or debris flow, including:

- Areas where wildfires or humans have destroyed natural vegetation;
- Areas where landslides have occurred before;
- Steep slopes and areas at the bottom of slopes or canyons;
- Slopes that have been altered for the construction of buildings and roads;
- Channels along a stream or river

***Did you know that wildfires dramatically alter the terrain and increase the risk of floods and landslides?***



**Emergency Management Department**

