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CITY CONNECTIONS

Weekly Municipal Column
Department of the Week: Planning
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Flood Safety

While it has already been a pretty wet year, spring time is when we can usually count on more rain. Hopefully the warmer weather will be here soon to stay. Before those April showers begin please remember to stay safe during flooding think about how you might evacuate your home if you had to. These are one of the easiest natural events to avoid, yet cause more damage than almost any other disasters annually.

There are several things you can do to help ensure your safety during a flooding event:

- If told to evacuate, do so immediately.
- Never drive around barricades.
- Listen to EAS, NOAA Weather Radio, or local alerting systems for current emergency information and instructions.
- Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. It only takes 6 inches of water to knock over a person, and only 12 inches to carry away a car. *Turn Around. Don't Drown!*
- Stay off bridges over fast-moving water. Fast-moving water can wash bridges away without warning.
- If your vehicle is trapped in rapidly moving water, then stay inside. If water is rising inside the vehicle, then seek refuge on the roof.
- If trapped in a building, go to its highest level. Do not climb into a closed attic; you may become trapped by rising floodwater. Go on the roof only if necessary. Once there, signal for help.

Please call the Floodplain Administrator in the Brevard Planning Department at (828) 885-5630 if you have questions about flood zones, and visit www.ready.gov to learn how to prepare your household for hurricanes and floods.

For more information visit:
www.cityofbrevard.com/flood