Anatomy of a Debris Flow:





Debris Flow Debris flows accumulate mass and accelerate as they travel downhill, becoming powerful enough to uproot trees, carry large boulders, and destroy homes.

Did You Know?

- Debris flows and mud flows can occur for five years after a wildfire
- Debris flows can happen any time of the year.

Santa Barbara

- Debris flows can move at 35 mph and travel miles from where they start.
- NFIP Flood insurance covers mudflows but not debris flows.

Montecito

Thunderstorms that develop over burn areas can cause flash flooding and debris flows nearly as fast as National Weather Service radar can detect the rainfall.

Summerland

(101)



Carpenteria

35 ft Height that debris flows have reached

evacuation warnings immediately!

Flooding: Not Just Water

Mud Flow vs. Debris Flow

Debris flows can take homes off their foundations;

mud flows don't. Mud flows are mostly made of water

and soil. Debris flows carry things like vegetation, trees,

debris flows, and debris flows and mud flows can occur

for five years after wildfires. Both happen fast, so heed

large boulders, and vehicles. Mud flows can become

25 ft
Height of average twostory house

10-15 ft Height of average debris flow

5 ft 7 in Avg height of American

P A C I F I C O C E A N

Debris flows that impacted Montecito, California on January 9, 2018, had <u>five</u> different sources, resulting in 23 deaths, 246 structures destroyed, and 167 damaged. Loss estimates for property alone have exceeded \$421 million dollars.

4 Miles

Before Floods & Debris Flows

- Pay attention to local emergency response messaging and heed evacuation notifications immediately
- Sign-up for local wireless emergency alerts sent by authorized government agencies
- Monitor incoming storms, especially if you live in burned areas or downstream/downslope of a burned area
- Make sure you have non-perishable emergency supplies and a disaster supply kit.
- Have an evacuation plan in place for you and your pets.
- Have a battery-powered AM/FM weather radio and a cell phone to listen for emergency updates and weather forecasts. Don't forget extra batteries!
- Talk to your insurance agent about purchasing flood insurance.



During Floods & Debris Flows

- Remember: local authorities may indicate it is safer for you and your family to shelter in place if flash flooding is not impacting your neighborhood.
- Do not walk through moving water just six inches of water can sweep an adult off his/her feet.
- Do not attempt to drive through a flood, debris flow, or into flooded areas. It takes only a foot of water to float or sweep away most vehicles.





Helpful Resources:

Websites:

FEMA Disaster supply kit:
https://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit
checklist of what you'll need for your kit.

National Flood Insurance Program:

www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program provides homeowners information about flood risk, flood maps and flood insurance.

CAL FIRE:

www.readyforwildfire.org/postwildfire/ provides information about why flood risk increases after wildfires.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA www.wrh.noaa.gov/lox/hydrology/files/
DebrisFlowSurvivalGuide.pdf

Mobile Apps:

FEMA Mobile App:

www.fema.gov/mobile-app helps you plan for and respond to natural disasters.

American Red Cross First Aid App:

www.redcross.org/mobile-apps/first-aid-app provides first aid information – videos, checklists, etc. – that can be accessed without cellphone coverage.

ReUnite:

https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/reunite/ id368052994?mt=8) from the National Institute of Health helps connect lost family members and friends in a disaster situation.

NOAA Weather Radio App for smartphones provides up-todate weather information and alerts: Android

play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.coudriet.weatherradio&hl=en

Phone

itunes.apple.com/us/app/noaa-weather-radio/id410148139?mt=8

