



# HURRICANE WARNING!

As hurricane season is in full swing, watch for some of the major hidden dangers of areas flooded by storm:

## Do not walk through flowing water.

Drowning is a major cause of flood deaths. Use a pole or stick to make sure the ground continues in front of you.

## Do not drive through a flooded area.

If you come upon a road barrier, turn around and go the other way; the road or bridge may be washed out. Also, when you are not able to determine the depth of the water, you run the risk of being swept away.

**Stay away from power lines and electrical wires.** Electrocutation is also a major killer in floods. Electrical current can travel through water. Report downed power lines.

**Turn off your electricity when you return home.** Some appliances, such as TV sets, can shock you even after they have been unplugged. Don't use appliances or motors that have gotten wet unless they have been taken apart, cleaned and dried by a professional. Fire from electrical shorts is also a possibility.

## Watch for animals—especially snakes.

Small animals that have been flooded out of their homes may seek shelter in yours. Use a stick to poke and turn items over and scare away small animals. Fire ants may also be a problem.

**Look before you step.** After a flood, the ground & floors are covered with debris, including broken bottles and nails, and may be slippery.

**Be alert for gas leaks.** Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Don't smoke or use candles, lanterns, or open flames unless you are sure that the gas has been turned off and the area aired out.

**Carbon monoxide exhaust kills.** Use generators, gas-powered machines, and camping stoves outdoors. Cook with charcoal outdoors only.

**Clean everything that got wet.** Floodwaters have picked up sewage and chemicals from roads, farms, factories, and storage buildings. Spoiled food and flooded cosmetics and medicine are health hazards. When in doubt, throw them out.

b. (FUNNY!)

[ a little insurance humor ]

**Confucius say: "Needing insurance is like needing a parachute...if it isn't there the first time, chances are you won't be needing it again."**