

# Turn Around Don't Drown!



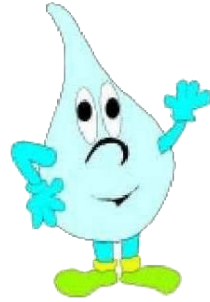
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The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association (OFMA) is very excited about our partnership with the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) to provide flood safety education to our children.

Each year, more deaths occur due to flooding than any other severe weather related hazard. Over half of all flood-related deaths occur when a vehicle is driven into flood water. The next highest percentage of flood-related deaths occur when people walk into or near flood waters. Many of these deaths are preventable.

Beginning the middle of October 2009, the Turn Around Don't Drown video and resources will be available to all Oklahoma teachers on the OKSDE web site on the Science Education page.

Not only is the flood safety material educational, it's fun and rewarding. OFMA sponsors a Turn Around Don't Drown Poster contest for fourth graders. Fourth grade students who submit a poster could win cash prizes of \$250, \$150, or \$100 for their artwork. Every student who participates receives a certificate of appreciation. The top 15 posters in the state are published in the OFMA Turn Around Don't Drown calendar. Information on the TADD poster contest is included in the web based material.



Freddie Floodway  
Wants you to be  
Flood Smart

Why do so many people drown during floods? People don't realize the incredible force and power of water. Just **six inches** of fast-moving flood water can knock over an adult. It only takes **two feet** of rushing water to carry away most vehicles including pickups and SUVs.

Most flood-related deaths and injuries could be avoided if people who come upon areas covered with water would "Turn Around Don't Drown".



## FLOOD SAFETY TIPS

**STAY INFORMED** - Turn on a battery operated radio or television to get the latest for news about what to do, where to go, and places to avoid.

**IF ADVISED TO EVACUATE, DO SO IMMEDIATELY.** Evacuation is much safer before the floodwaters come.

**DO NOT DRIVE THROUGH FLOODWATER** - Two feet of moving water can sweep your car away. The road may be damaged. **TURN AROUND DON'T DROWN.**

**AVOID WALKING THROUGH FLOODWATER** - Six inches of moving water can sweep you off your feet.

**STAY AWAY FROM POWER LINES AND ELECTRIC WIRES** - Electrical current can travel through water.

**BE ALERT FOR GAS LEAKS** - Don't smoke or burn candles or lanterns. Gas is easily ignited.

**LOOK OUT FOR ANIMALS, ESPECIALLY SNAKES** Small animals may seek shelter in your home during flooding.



**Remember, BE SMART and BE SAFE.**  
**Whether driving or walking, if you come to a flooded road -**

**TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN!**