

National Flood Insurance Program Landslide and Debris Flow (Mudslide)

Before a Landslide: How to Plan

Develop a Family Disaster Plan. Please see the "[Family Disaster Plan](#)" section for general family planning information. Develop landslide-specific planning.

Learn about landslide risk in your area. Contact local officials, state geological surveys or departments of natural resources, and university departments of geology. Landslides occur where they have before, and in identifiable hazard locations. Ask for information on landslides in your area, specific information on areas vulnerable to landslides, and request a professional referral for a very detailed site analysis of your property, and corrective measures you can take, if necessary.

If you are at risk from landslides:

- **Talk to your insurance agent.** Debris flow may be covered by flood insurance policies from the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
- **Develop an evacuation plan.** (See "[Evacuation](#)" in the "Family Disaster Plan" section.) You should know where to go if you have to leave. Trying to make plans at the last minute can be upsetting and create confusion.
- **Discuss landslides and debris flow with your family.** Everyone should know what to do in case all family members are not together. Discussing disaster ahead of time helps reduce fear and lets everyone know how to respond during a landslide or debris flow.

Assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit

Please see the section "[Disaster Supplies Kit](#)" for general supplies kit information. Landslide-specific supplies should include the following:

Disaster Supplies Kit basics

Evacuation Supplies Kit.

What to Do Before Intense Storms

- **Become familiar with the land around you.** Learn whether landslides and debris flows have occurred in your area by contacting local officials, state geological surveys or departments of natural resources, and university departments of geology. Knowing the land can help you assess your risk for danger.
- **Watch the patterns of storm-water drainage on slopes near your home, and especially the places where runoff water converges, increasing flow over soil-covered slopes.** Watch the hillsides around your home for any signs of land movement, such as small landslides or debris flows, or progressively tilting trees. Watching small changes could alert you to the potential of a greater landslide threat.