



Debris Flows

What is a debris flow?

- Debris flows are fast-moving, deadly landslides consisting of loose mud, sand, soil, rock, water and air
- They occur over recent to several year old wildfire burn scars

What causes a debris flow?

- Intense heavy rain in a short period of time (i.e thunderstorms, strong atmospheric rivers)

How can I prepare?

- Be ready to evacuate and have multiple evacuation routes planned
- Have an emergency kit
- Monitor forecasts for rain chances near and over burn scars at weather.gov
- If a Flash Flood Watch is issued for the burn scar begin to take action and listen to local officials
- You might be told to evacuate more than once. Remember, debris flows are unpredictable and no one can say where the next one will flow.

When should I evacuate?

- Leave as soon as you get the word from local officials, don't wait and see

What if I don't evacuate in time?

- Your best hope of surviving is to get higher than the flow - get to the top story of your home, on a roof, up a tree



National Weather Service

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