

# Washington State EMERGENCY NEWS/Response



Washington  
Military  
Department

Washington  
Emergency  
Management  
Division

Camp Murray,  
Washington

[www.emd.wa.gov](http://www.emd.wa.gov)

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## State EOC activated for statewide flooding

**CAMP MURRAY, WASH.** The State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) began a Phase III activation at 8 a.m. today due to statewide flooding as well as significant landslide and avalanche hazards.

Gov. Christine Gregoire's office was notified when the State EOC activated. Her staff will receive periodic updates on the flood situation.

Washingtonians should consider the following preparedness actions:

- Respect road closures, be aware of potential landslides and don't attempt to drive through standing water.
- Listen to radio and television stations for local information and weather reports.

The State EOC activation will include personnel from the Washington Emergency Management Division (WEMD) and other key state agencies, including the departments of Agriculture, Transportation; Health, Fish and Wildlife, Natural Resources, Social and Health Services, Washington National Guard, Ecology and the Washington State Patrol. Staff from the American Red Cross and the Washington Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster also are reporting.

Two counties – Thurston and Whatcom – already have declared emergencies because of flooding and landslides.

The State Enhanced 911 Office, in cooperation with local telephone carriers, reminds people across the state:

- To stay off the telephone unless you have a critical need to make a telephone call. Remember a FAX or a computer also uses a telephone line and its use may affect your ability to get immediate help in a life-threatening emergency.
- DO NOT call 9-1-1 unless you need an emergency response from police, fire or emergency medical personnel.
- If you experience other types of problems not related to these emergency services, call the appropriate telephone number for those services.
- DO NOT call 9-1-1 unnecessarily. 9-1-1 lines must be kept open for people who have a true emergency.
- If you pick up your telephone to make a call and do not hear a dial tone, DO NOT HANG UP. Simply wait a few seconds, and you will get a dial tone and be able to make your call.

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