



# News Release

Shelby County Government Emergency Management and Homeland Security Office

**For Immediate Release**

**June 7, 2019**

## **Overnight Flash Flooding**

Flash flooding overnight caused damage to some homes, apartment complexes and businesses within Shelby County. The Shelby County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Office is conducting damage assessments. "If you have damage to report, please visit our website at [www.staysafeshelby.us](http://www.staysafeshelby.us) and click on the link: <https://tinyurl.com/ShelbyCoStormDamage>," said Brenda Jones, Director of the Shelby County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Office. The Shelby County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Office is working with the City of Memphis Office of Emergency Management and the American Red Cross to assist individuals who have sustained damage.

### **Damage Reported:**

There were three (3) apartment complexes that sustained damage due to flooding within Shelby County. Several homes in the Germantown, Collierville and Memphis area as well as the Honda Dealership at Hacks Cross & Winchester all incurred damage as a result of the flash flooding.

### **Short Term Weather Hazard:**

After the heavy rainfall last night across portions of Shelby County, we want to update the citizens of Shelby County on the potential for additional flooding. Heavy rainfall sufficient to produce localized areas of flash flooding will be possible today and tonight.

A flash flood watch is in effect for a large portion of the Mid-South this afternoon and into tonight. Heavy rainfall of 2 to 4 inches will be possible. A strong thunderstorm or two producing gusty winds and localized heavy rainfall is possible across the Mid-South.

### **Severe Flooding Safety Tips:**

- Clean debris from storm drains before rain begins.
- Have a plan to evacuate to higher ground.
- Know alternative routes to and from work.
- Avoid traveling at night when it is difficult to see flash floods and ponding.
- Never drive through water on the roadways, **"Turn around, don't drown!"**
- Avoid bridges over fast moving water.
- Do not drive around barricades and anticipate street closures.
- Do not walk or swim in flood waters (flood waters can be toxic). If you must walk through flood waters to reach higher ground, shower as soon as possible.
- Do not allow children or pets near flood waters.
- Have a disaster kit for home and auto to sustain you for 7 day and nights.
- Have a pet and animal plan to move them to higher ground during flooding if needed.

**End Release**