

**"THE HIDDEN DANGER"
LOW-WATER CROSSING**



Courtesy WVIR-TV, Charlottesville, Virginia

Nearly half of all flash flood fatalities are vehicle related!



Courtesy Lower Colorado River Authority

In your automobile look out for...

...flooding at highway dips, bridges, and low areas.

Even the largest and heaviest of vehicles will float.

...as little as six inches of water may cause you to lose control of your vehicle.

...two feet of water will carry most cars away.



Courtesy Lower Colorado River Authority

Do not drive through flowing water!

Low-Water Crossing...

...a hidden danger awaits motorists where a road without a bridge dips across a creek bed.

...motorists develop false confidence when they normally or frequently pass through **dry** low-water crossings.

...road beds may have been scoured or even washed away during flooding creating unsafe driving condition.

...those people who repeatedly drive through flooded low-water crossings do not recognize the dangers of a small increase in the water level.

...driving too fast through low water will cause the vehicle to hydroplane and lose contact with the road surface.

...visibility is limited at night increasing the vulnerability of the driver to any hidden dangers.

...heed all flood and flash flood watches and warnings.

...keep abreast of road conditions through the news media.



for more information contact:

National Weather Service
Office of Hydrology
SSMC-2
1325 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Md 20910
Phone: 301-713-0006

