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Rivers and Flooding Historical use of rivers, Sedimentation, velocity, discharge, erosion, and deposition, Effects of land-use changes and urbanization, The nature and extent of flood hazard

Rivers and Flooding, river flood, occurs when the water level in a river, lake or stream rises and overflows onto the neighboring land. The water level rise of the river could be due to excessive rain or snowmelt.



The condition of becoming filled or covered with a large amount of water: Rain caused flooding that washed out bridges and covered roads. The adverse effects of flooding include: Loss of human life. Property and infrastructure damage. Road closures, erosion, and landslide risks.

The most common is **when rivers or streams overflow their banks**. These floods are called riverine floods. Heavy rain, a broken dam or levee, rapid icemelt in the mountains, or even a beaver dam in a vulnerable spot can overwhelm a river and send it spreading over nearby land.

Flood-proof Structures

1. Elevate the furnace, water heater, air conditioner and other utilities.
2. Install "check valves" in sewer traps to prevent flood water backups.
3. Construct interior barriers to stop low level floodwater from entering basements.
4. Seal walls in basements with waterproofing compounds to avoid seepage.