

# MSUKALIGWA MUNICIPALITY

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## MSUKALIGWA MUNICIPALITY-MP 302

### COMMUNITY INFORMATION: FLOODS AWARENESS

#### What are floods?

Floods refer to excessive water run-off or the rise in water level in particular area which is more than the environment can absorb or carry.

#### Two key elements which contribute to flooding

- Rainfall intensity ( the rate of rainfall)
- Duration (how long the rain lasts)

#### What should I do in order to reduce my risk of flooding?

- Be aware of where you build your house or dwelling – avoid risk areas such as floodplains and river beds.
- Obey the rules and by-laws of your local municipality – they are there for a reason.
- Consult with your local councilor or disaster management centre.
- Discuss floods with your family.

#### What should I do during the floods?

- Everyone in an area should be ready to respond and act quickly. Floods and flash floods can happen quickly and without warning. Be ready to act immediately.
- If you live in flood prone area or think you are at risk, evacuate immediately. Move quickly to higher ground. Save yourself, not your belongings.
- Follow the instructions and advice of local authorities and Local authorities are the most informed about affected areas. They will best be able to tell you areas to avoid.

For more information, people can contact Mr. Fanie S. Maseko from the Msukaligwa Disaster Management Unit at (017) 801 3400.

**“DISASTER MANAGEMENT IS EVERYBODY’S BUSINESS AND LET’S PREVENT IT”**