



## **HEALTH ALERT**

### **SIGNIFICANT RAIN AND FLOODING EVENT**

**July 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**Guidance for Hospitals, Diagnostic and Treatment Centers, Nursing Homes, Adult Care Facilities, Homecare, Hospice, Dialysis Centers and Local Health Departments**

A series of summer storms are expected to impact the State with significant amounts of rainfall and the possibility for flash flooding, especially Downstate, beginning Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Flood Watches have been posted for some areas of the State through Wednesday. The latest information on active weather watches, warnings, and advisories can be found on the [National Weather Service Page](#).

In anticipation of this event, health care facilities and homecare and hospice agencies are strongly encouraged to review your facility-specific emergency response plans and ensure backup systems are ready and functioning properly through load testing and inspection. Additionally, all facilities should report any disruption of services or infrastructure to the Department's State Medical Operations Coordination Center and complete required Facility-Reported Incident reports where applicable.

#### **KEY POINTS**

- Significant amounts of rain are expected to fall statewide beginning on Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup>. Some areas are forecasted to receive several inches of rain, with rainfall rates exceeding 1-2+ inches per hour or more.
- Downstate regions are especially vulnerable due to already saturated ground from the recent heavy storms they have experienced.
- These rainfall amounts can quickly lead to flash flooding on roads and low-lying urban areas, especially along creeks and streams.
- These storms may also be accompanied by severe thunderstorms and damaging winds in excess of 60 miles per hour. This may result in power outages, in addition to widespread flooding.
- Facilities should ensure their 24/7 Emergency Contact on the Health Commerce System is current and inclusive of a cell phone number in the event of a landline failure.
- Facilities should review their emergency operations' plans and conduct a briefing with on-duty staff at the beginning of each shift throughout the event to review emergency response roles, responsibilities, and operational updates in case emergency plans need to be activated.
- All Article 28, 7, 36 and 40 healthcare facilities and agencies are reminded to report any disruption of services or infrastructure to the New York State Department of Health State Medical Operations Coordination Center at (917) 909-2676.