

United States Embassy Asuncion, Paraguay
Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens: *Flooding in Paraguay*
11 June 2014

Following months of heavy rainfall, flooding has affected approximately 159,000 people, in Paraguay's Alto Paraguay, Ñeembucú, and Presidente Hayes departments, as well as the cities of Ayolas, Ciudad del Este, Presidente Franco, and Paraguay's capital Asunción. According to the Government of Paraguay, floods have caused widespread damage to houses and other buildings, roads, and agricultural production. The water levels continue to rise on the Paraguay and Paraná rivers, which has impeded response efforts. In the flood-affected departments, elevated water levels have left many low-lying communities isolated and unable to receive assistance.

The Embassy recommends that you avoid travel to the affected areas. If in an area affected by flooding, monitor local media and follow the instructions of local authorities. **Under no circumstances should you attempt to drive through or otherwise attempt to ford flooded areas.** Place important personal documents such as your passport, a supply of cash or a credit card, and prescription medications in a plastic bag and keep within easy reach in case you have to evacuate in a hurry.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Paraguay enroll in the State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP). STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State Department's website, where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the Country Specific Information for Paraguay. For additional information, refer to the "Traveler's Checklist" on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free from within the United States and Canada, or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on Twitter and Facebook, and download our free Smart Traveler App, available through iTunes and the Android market, to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy in Asuncion is located at 1776 Mariscal Lopez Avenue.

U.S. Embassy Asuncion contact information:

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