

Fire Marshal dissuades flood fears

Written by Lauren Ohnesorge
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The rain, rain and more rain drenching the High Country is nothing to worry about, according to Avery County Fire Marshal David Charles Vance.

While some fear a repeat of flooding like the storms that claimed the Avery County Senior Center years ago, the inch or so of rain measured in the area is not enough, Vance says.

You need five to seven inches before you worry about flooding, he says.

The recent drought left the ground dry, he says- and that's a good thing for those who fear a flood. The smooth rain over the past few days is easily absorbed by the dry soil.

It would take hard rain conditions lasting several hours to cause real flooding, he says.

It's been a mild hurricane season so far- and those who remember post-hurricane flooding in years past hope it stays that way.