



## **The Flood-warning Program of the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District**

by

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The Urban Drainage and Flood Control District (UDFCD) of the Denver Metro region covers an area of 1608 square miles that includes Denver and parts of 6 neighboring counties encompassing 33 incorporated cities and towns. UDFCD's floodplain management program is responsible for preventing new flood damage potential from being introduced into 100-year floodplains while encouraging the utilization of non-structural methods of flood damage mitigation. Along with the management of floodplains, UDFCD supports a local flood warning program that provides valuable early flood detection, decision support, and notification services for the community. An important component of the program is the ALERT system, comprised of more than 150 gauging stations that provide real-time measurements of rainfall; stream and reservoir water levels; and weather data from 16 mesonet stations. UDFCD uses this information, along with daily weather forecasts to assist local governments with anticipating and responding to potential flood threats. The ALERT system and the District's flood warning mission will be discussed.