

Warning: Flood Damaged Vehicles

The recent floods that hit Alberta and parts of British Columbia have put many vehicles under water, causing serious damage to critical components. In addition, it's been reported that vehicles damaged in the northeast U.S. by Hurricane Sandy have arrived in Washington State. Flood damaged vehicles can be extremely unsafe and pose serious risks on the road. Flooding can seriously damage the electronic and computer systems, which control everything from the steering, brakes, engine to the airbags.

Vehicles with a documented history of flood damage, such as those written off by insurers, are not eligible for importation into British Columbia for highway use. BC registered vehicles that have sustained flood damage will get a "D" or non-repairable status and can be sold only for parts or for scrap.

Dealers may be offered vehicles from flooded areas within the next few months. It's easy to miss a flood vehicle because most of them do not display obvious physical damage. Under the requirements of the *Business Practices and Consumer Protection Act*, a motor dealer could be held responsible for selling flood damaged vehicles, even if they are unaware that the vehicle has been damaged. To reduce the risk of selling a flood damaged vehicle, dealers need to get as much information as they can. ICBC has published some tips that can help you detect a flood vehicle, available [here](#).

Want more info?

[Watch](#) a video on spotting flood damage

[Get](#) tips on how to avoid purchasing a flood damaged vehicle

[Check](#) a vehicle's status (B.C. vehicles only)

[Look](#) for vehicles from flood U.S. areas by VIN (recent Canadian flood area vehicles have not yet been added)

New Customer Consent Form for Insurance Brokers

ICBC introduced a new customer consent form to protect consumers' personal information when purchasing or leasing a vehicle. Beginning July 10th, brokers will need to obtain written consent before they can share their clients' information with dealerships or financial institutions. ICBC released appropriate wording that fulfills the requirements set by the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FIPPA). A complete customer consent form is available for use immediately.

While this new form concerns insurance brokers, licensed motor dealers must also comply with FIPPA and ensure that their customer's information is protected at all times. Dealers should talk with the Autoplan insurance agent they work with for more information about the consent forms.

Dealer Alert Update

The VIN number of the 2002 Dodge Ram 2500 Diesel Quad Cab Pickup stolen from a Squamish parking lot on June 23 is 3B7KF23682M241064.