



News from: Oakland Public Works Agency

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 15, 2012

Public Works' Crews Prepare for Wet Weather

Sandbags Available to Residents & Businesses – Volunteers Needed

Oakland, CA – In preparation for the start of the rainy season, the Oakland Public Works Agency is taking proactive measures to prepare for wet weather. Annually, Public Works crews remove debris from storm drains, inlets, culverts, creeks and drainage structures in preparation for the winter months. Crews are also prepared to address other storm-related issues. In addition, there are opportunities available for volunteers to assist during the rainy season (see below).

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Beginning November 15, 2012, a maximum of 20 sandbags and 50 feet of plastic sheeting (per household/business) will be available for pickup at the City's Municipal Service Center and the Public Works Drainage Division facility. See addresses and hours below. Proof of Oakland residency is required to obtain sandbags and sheeting.

Oakland Fire Stations will join in storm preparations for our community by distributing sandbags to residents. A limit of five sandbags (per household) will be available for pickup at the Fire Stations. Please see below for addresses and distribution hours.

During the winter months, just before an expected rain event, Public Works may extend service hours to make sandbags and plastic sheeting available to residents and businesses to help them protect their properties from weather-related damage.

How Residents Can Help

- Check & clean your private drainage systems, including roof gutters & downspouts.
- Keep your curb & gutters free of leaves & debris.
- Do not place leaves, debris or lawn clippings near storm drains.
- Place leaves & green trimmings in your green cart for weekly pickup.
- Keep natural waterways such as creeks & ditches free from obstructions.
- Do not obstruct access to storm drain inlets with your vehicle(s).
- Report flooding problems to Public Works Call Center at **(510) 615-5566**.

Volunteer Opportunities

Public Works is renewing its call for volunteers to join the Oakland Adopt a Spot program and keep a storm drain in their neighborhood free of debris. By keeping storm drains clean, volunteers can help prevent flooding of streets and sidewalks while allowing the City to focus storm-response activities on the most critical problems. Public Works will support volunteer adopters with supplies and debris bags, should they need them, to get the job done. Remember, "if it is plugged, it will flood." To adopt a storm drain, visit oaklandadoptaspot.org or call (510) 238-7630.

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Sandbags (up to 20) & plastic sheeting (up to 50 feet) can be picked up at the following locations & times when inclement weather is forecasted:

Municipal Service Center, 7101 Edgewater Drive

Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

After Hours (in front of entry gate) 4:30 p.m. – 8:00 a.m.

Drainage Division Facility, 5921 Shepherd Canyon Road

Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

After Hours (in front of entry gate) 4:30 p.m. – 8:00 a.m. (before inclement weather)

Sandbags can be picked up at these Fire Stations when inclement weather is forecasted:

Fire Station Hours

Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Fire Station # 3, 1445 -14th St.

Fire Station # 6, 7080 Colton Blvd.

Fire Station # 7, 1006 Amito Ave.

Fire Station # 8, 463 - 51st St.

Fire Station # 10, 172 Santa Clara Ave.

Fire Station # 16, 3608 -13th Ave.

Fire Station # 17, 3344 High St.

Fire Station # 20, 1408 - 98th Ave.

Fire Station # 21, 13150 Skyline Blvd.

Fire Station # 26, 2611 - 98th Ave.

Fire Station # 28, 4615 Grass Valley Rd.

In an emergency or to report storm damage, Oakland residents should call the Public Works Agency Call Center at **(510) 615-5566**.

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