

News from: Oakland Public Works

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 9, 2014

Be Prepared! Get Ready for a Storm!

Sandbags Available to Residents & Businesses

Oakland, CA – Good news! We are getting even more of our much needed rain! Now we just need to be sure we all remember the good tips for being ready and prepared.

The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (**NOAA**) is forecasting a hazardous storm of wind and rain for Northern California starting Wednesday and Oakland is likely to see several inches of rain and some high wind gusts through Thursday. Follow www.noaa.gov to keep yourself safe at work and at home.

Media Contact:

Kristine Shaff
Public Information Officer
(510) 238-2966
kshaff@oaklandnet.com

In advance of this approaching storm, Oakland Public Works crews are cleaning storm drains, inlets, culverts and drainage structures. We also are providing Oakland residents and businesses helpful sandbags and plastic sheeting, if needed, to help keep runoff away from buildings and to help prevent flooding. Please see below for details and pick-up locations.

How Residents Can Help

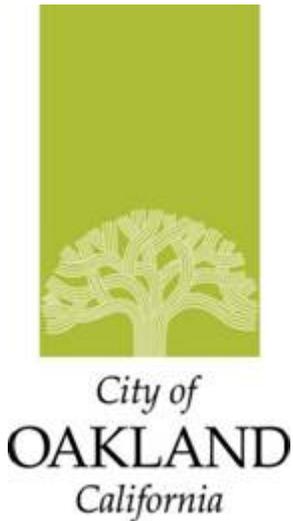
- **Report** flooding problems to Public Works Call Center at **(510) 615-5566**.
- Check & clean your private drainage systems, including roof gutters & downspouts.
- Keep your curb & gutters free of leaves & debris. And keep natural waterways such as creeks & ditches free from obstructions.
- Slow down & watch out for maintenance crews working in the roadways.
- **Adopt a Drain!** Join our volunteer program to keep a storm drain in your 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.”** Visit adoptadrainoakland.com or call (510) 238-7630 to get involved.

The California Highway Patrol (**CHP**) has also stated the volume of rainfall is expected to overwhelm waterways and roadway drainage systems, leading to flash flooding on roadways.

Remember Safe Driving in Rainy Weather

- **It's the law** – when your wipers are on, so are your headlights!
- **Never drive through standing water.** You never know how deep the water is, and what may be beneath the surface.
- **Plan** your trip – so you won't be tempted to use your cell phone while driving (it's also the law!). Use www.511.org for roadway and traffic conditions.
- Take it **slow!** Give yourself extra room when slowing down, turning and stopping.
- Freeways will often flood nearest to the roadway edges, especially on elevated roadways with walls on both sides. Avoid the outside lanes when possible.

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Be Prepared!

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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 Services 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 (up to 5) 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 Amato 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 Oakland Public Works Call Center at **(510) 615-5566**. Please also visit our website for more information about Oakland Public Works at oaklandpw.com.

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