

FLOOD PREPAREDNESS AND STORM READINESS

Pacifica winter storms can cause floods, landslides, uprooted trees, and downed or broken utility lines in almost any neighborhood. The City of Pacifica has prepared safety tips to help you have a safe winter and protect yourself and your property. For all emergencies, call 911. To report downed tree limbs, clogged catch basins or localized flooding, call the Department of Public Works at 650-738-3767.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE NEXT STORM

- ✓ Clean all drainage facilities, pipes/concrete lined ditches, etc. within your property.
- ✓ Remove/secure items that may get blown or washed away during a flood or heavy winds.
- ✓ Know where sandbags are available and how to properly install them.
- ✓ Be aware of low-elevation spots that could flood.
- ✓ Move your valuables and more expensive items to a safer place.
- ✓ Store emergency items such as first aid kits, flashlights and portable radios in a safe, high place. Keep a "Go-Bag" near exit door or in your car.
- ✓ Store drinking water in closed, clean containers in case water service is interrupted. Allow one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days.
- ✓ Consider installing a back-flow prevention device if any of your inside drains or fixtures are lower than the side sewer vent on the sidewalk.
- ✓ Prepare written instructions on how to turn off electricity, gas and water if authorities advise you to do so. (Remember, you'll need a professional to turn them back on.)
- ✓ Always maintain at least half a tank of gas in your vehicle.
- ✓ Keep electronic records/photos of insurance policies for storage on cell phone.

DURING THE STORM

- ✓ If water has entered a garage or basement, do not walk through it.
- ✓ If you are asked to leave your property, disconnect all electrical appliances.
- ✓ Tune to KCBS 740 or local TV channels for emergency advisories and instructions.
- ✓ Avoid downed power lines and broken gas

lines.

AFTER THE STORM

- ✓ **DO NOT TURN GAS BACK ON YOURSELF.** Call PG&E (800) 743-5000.
- ✓ Avoid direct contact with floodwater. Wear protective clothing, including heavy gloves, to remove wet materials that may be contaminated.
- ✓ Follow local instructions regarding the safety of drinking water.
- ✓ Do not use fresh foods or canned goods that have come in contact with floodwaters.
- ✓ Flooded buildings should be pumped out, disinfected and dried as quickly as possible to prevent mold.
- ✓ Do not handle live electrical equipment in wet areas. Have them checked before use.

CITY MAINTENANCE OF DRAINAGE CHANNELS AND PIPES

The City of Pacifica Department of Public Works performs annual cleaning and maintenance activities on the drainage channels and pipes within City properties, City easements & rights-of-way in accordance with an established schedule and other standard operating procedures, inspect and maintain floodgates throughout the City. We also inspect and maintain drainage inlets, pumps and generators, which are vital tools to removing water from our streets and discharging storm water into our local waterways.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

- ✓ **Observe Street Sweeping Days.** Don't park on blocks scheduled for street sweeping trucks. Storm drains get and stay clogged if leaves cannot be removed from the streets.
- ✓ **Report Illegal Dumping.** Help prevent illegal dumping. Call to report such activity. If there is an immediate hazard, call 911.
- ✓ **Sandbags.** Be prepared. If you're in a flood-prone area, get bags before it rains.
- ✓ **Make sure trash bin covers are secured** and don't let trash or recyclables overflow the bins. When possible, retrieve all bins after garbage collection.

SANDBAGS

During each rainy season, sandbags are available to Pacifica residents for flood control purposes only. Sandbags are not furnished to contractors or for business/home construction projects.

Each resident may pick up a maximum of 25 sandbags. Residents may also be required to fill the sandbags with sand provided by the City. Sandbags may be picked up at either the City of Pacifica Corporation Yard, located at 675 Oceana Boulevard, or behind the Linda Mar Fire Station (open 24 hours a day), located at 1100 Linda Mar Boulevard.

OTHER STORM RELATED LINKS AND HELPFUL INFORMATION

- City of Pacifica Flood Prevention publication: <http://www.cityofpacific.org/civica/filebank/blobdload.asp?BlobID=4829>
- Flood Preparedness Website: www.water.ca.gov/ca-flood-preparedness/
- Flood Risk Notification: www.water.ca.gov/myfloodrisk/
- Flood Smart: www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/
- My Hazards: myhazards.calema.ca.gov/
- PG&E's Power Outage Preparation/Response – For Residential Customers: www.pge.com/en/myhome/outages/pge_preparation/index.page
- PG&E's Electric Outage Center – For Residential Customers: www.pge.com/myhome/outages/outage/
- American Red Cross: www.redcross.org/prepare/location/home-family
- SMC Alert: Alert notification system used to immediately contact you during urgent or emergency situations with useful information and updates by sending text messages to your: email accounts, cell phones, pagers Smartphones/handheld devices: www.smcalert.info

LITTLE / NO WATER USEAGE DURING STORM

The Pacifica Sanitary Sewer infrastructure is an aging system and takes on a lot of rain water in storm events. Limiting water usage can significantly decrease the chances of sewer overflows. Sewer overflows have a tremendous cost to the City in fines, and ultimately, increased taxes.

applicable to properties within the limits of the City. If you reside in a jurisdiction other than the City of Pacifica, contact your regulatory authority for information. If you believe you received this notice in error, or if you no longer own this property, please contact the City of Pacifica Department of Public Works at (650) 738-3760 or via U.S. Mail at the following address:

City of Pacifica
Department of Public Works
170 Santa Maria Avenue
Pacifica, CA 94044



ARE YOU READY FOR THE NEXT STORM?



*A Publication for
City of Pacifica
Residents*

