

# Are You Prepared for the Winter Storm Season?

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is expecting a very wet winter with possible flooding. We know that choosing to live in areas with a history of weather-related issues means we must be prepared to be on our own for up to several days. **Are you ready?**

- Go to [www.smcalert.info](http://www.smcalert.info) and sign up to receive alerts on your cell phone and email. You will be notified quickly of tsunamis, floods, fires, road closures, mountain lion sightings, planned events with traffic disruptions, etc.
- Tune your portable and car radios to KCBS 740 AM or KCBS 106.9 FM for emergency broadcasts. Assign a preset button for these stations. Get a NOAA weather radio (about \$30) and set it to KHB49 162.40 Mhz and have extra batteries.
- When roads are closed due to flooding, trees down or mudslides, you may need to leave your area by a different route than you are accustomed to. Learn those routes now, before you need them. Make arrangements to temporarily stay with family or friends should you need to evacuate your home.
- Always maintain at least a half a tank of gas in your vehicles.



## Homeowner Recommendations

- Fix leaks in ceilings/roofs or replace roof
- Seal foundation cracks with mortar or masonry caulking
- Clean gutters, drains, and debris in yard
- Move expensive items to safe locations
- Elevate furnaces/heaters 12" above highest known flood level
- Install French drains if you live on a slope
- Stock up on sandbags
- Take pictures of insurance policies for storage on cell phone

## Emergency Supplies at Home

- One gallon of water per person per day for up to 72 hours
- Enough food (not requiring refrigeration) for up to 72 hours
- Battery or crank-powered lighting
- Battery and/or crank powered radio
- Extra batteries for lights and radios
- An exit plan so your family knows where to meet if separated
- Provisions/plans for feeding/evacuating pets & large animals
- Camping gear/tents (for backyard if house in uninhabitable)
- First Aid kit
- Trash bags to line toilet for waste disposal if sewer/water out

## "Go-Bag" Near Exit Door or in Car

- Water
- Food bars/nuts/snacks
- Prescription medications in sealable bags
- Extra eyeglasses
- Cash
- Copies of important papers in sealable bags
- Matches or lighter in sealable plastic bags
- Flashlights with extra batteries
- Extra undergarments and socks in sealable plastic bags
- Sweater or sweatshirt
- Space blanket

- Hat and gloves
- Writing pad and pencils
- Towel(s)
- Rain poncho
- Pet leashes/food/meds
- Portable radio with extra batteries
- First Aid kit
- 50' parachute cord/rope
- Multi-tool

## Sandbags

City of Pacifica Distribution Locations:

- 1100 Linda Mar Blvd. (Fire Station)
- 675 Oceana Blvd. (City of Pacifica Corp Yard)

## Resources

For more information on how to prepare for winter storm emergencies:

- <http://myhazards.calema.ca.gov>
- [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)
- <http://smcready.org>
- <https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/ca.php?x=3>
- <http://www.fema.gov/plan-prepare>
- [www.smcalert.info](http://www.smcalert.info)
- <http://www.fema.gov/view-your-communitys-preliminary-flood-hazard-data-0>
- Large Animal Evacuation Information: [sharonmontoyabretz@gmail.com](mailto:sharonmontoyabretz@gmail.com)

## Get Involved

If you are interested in joining the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) or learning about ham radio licensing, Red Cross Shelter Operations, or any other emergency preparedness programs in Pacifica, contact:

Captain Joe Spanheimer  
Emergency Manager  
Pacifica Police Department

[spanheimerj@pacificapolice.org](mailto:spanheimerj@pacificapolice.org)  
650-738-7314

