



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Saturday, Jan. 25, 2025

City of San Diego Prepares for Rainy Conditions This Weekend

FIRST STORM OF THE YEAR EXPECTED TO BRING LESS THAN AN INCH OF RAIN; CITY TEAMS CLEARING DRAINS AND CHANNELS IN LOCATIONS PRONE TO FLOODING

SAN DIEGO – As rain is in the forecast starting as soon as this evening, the City of San Diego has ramped up its storm preparations and taken proactive steps to prevent flooding.

Starting Monday, Jan. 20, the City's Stormwater Department began placing "no parking" signs in low-lying or flood-risk areas, cleaning storm drains and inlets with a history of debris buildup, and sweeping streets in key locations to reduce trash and pollutants from entering our waterways.

The National Weather Service is forecasting rain to begin late this evening and continue to Monday afternoon. Predicted rainfall accumulation through the weekend is expected to be half of an inch or less.

During the rain, Stormwater staff will be monitoring more than 46,000 storm drains citywide for any issues.

"Ahead of storm season, City employees were busy maintaining key stormwater infrastructure, such as storm channels, pump stations and storm drains," said Stormwater Department Director Todd Snyder. "We also encourage all San Diego residents to take proactive steps, especially if you live in a floodplain."

Last month, the City <u>distributed educational pamphlets</u> with vital information on how to prepare for potential flooding. The informational brochures were sent to about 10,000 residents who live or own property in a floodplain, and contained essential guidelines on emergency preparedness, flood insurance and other flood-related resources.

While this storm is not expected to bring significant rainfall or the potential for flooding, San Diegans can prepare their homes and properties for this and future storms by taking a few simple steps:

• Sweep and pick up trash, leaves, grass clippings and other debris that collect around storm drains and curb gutters near your home.

- Keep the lids securely closed on trash and recycle bins when placing them out on the street for collection. Place each bin approximately 2 to 3 feet away from the curb so as not to impede the stormwater flowing on the street.
- Proactively turn off irrigation to save water and minimize runoff.
- Know the safest routes to and from your home or property should flooding occur.
- Slow down and do not drive, ride or walk through flood waters.
- Do not open or lift manhole covers in the event of street flooding. During the rains, multiple crews from the City's Storm Patrol will be actively monitoring areas throughout the city and responding to incidents, such as temporary flooding and downed trees or branches.

To prioritize public safety, the City may close flood-prone roads ahead of the upcoming storm. Sandbags are available in limited supply at select recreation centers in each City Council District. Sandbags are limited to 10 bags per City of San Diego household or business, and sand is not provided. To view the list of locations, visit the City's Storm Preparedness webpage.

Residents can report storm-related issues, such as flooding or downed trees, by using the Get It Done app or by calling 619-527-7500. If it is a life-threatening emergency, call 9-1-1.

For more information and resources on how to properly prepare before a storm, please visit the City's <u>Storm Preparedness webpage</u>.



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