

C.A.R.E. is a multi-agency public outreach program to disseminate information about recovery efforts and potential storm impacts

February 26, 2014

LOS ANGELES COUNTY PREPARES FOR HEAVY RAIN STORMS

Los Angeles County first responder agencies and Coordinated Agency Recovery Effort (CARE) partners are monitoring two major rain storm systems forecasted to impact the region later this week, and are coordinating emergency response and recovery contingency plans.

The agencies are ready to respond to any storm-related incidents countywide and foothill communities, including the cities of Glendora, Azusa and Monrovia, and the southwest area of the Antelope Valley, are on a heightened state of alert following recent wildfires that have left the areas at an elevated risk for mud and debris flows.

The <u>LA County Public Works Department</u> completed annual storm season preparation last summer. The countywide flood control system is fully operational. Following the recent Colby Fire, the Department completed additional preparations in Glendora and Azusa, cleaning out regional debris basins, working with the city on the placement of krails, and providing advice to homeowners on measures they should take to help protect their properties from mud and debris flows. Residents are advised to stay informed of local weather conditions and to follow all instructions from local law enforcement agencies. The flood control channels, as well as rivers, creeks, and lakes should be avoided when fast-moving water or flooding is present. Additionally, bicycle paths located adjacent to the channels will be closed until after the storms have passed.

Other storm preparations that are currently underway include:

- The <u>Department of Parks and Recreation</u> is sandbagging flood-prone park areas and is prepared to deploy lake lifeguards to County parks where heavy rain may create fast-moving running water
- To obtain free sandbags, visit your nearest County Fire station. A map of all stations is available by visiting www.dpw.lacounty.gov/care/sandbags/





































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- In the event of <u>Red Cross</u> shelter openings, staff from the Department of Public Social Services will be on hand to provide services and assistance
- The <u>Department of Public Social Services</u> will be conducting safety checks on any current Adult Protective Services clients in the affected areas
- For animals that need to be temporarily relocated, the <u>Department of Animal Care and Control</u> will be housing dogs, cats, and reptiles at the Inland Valley Humane Society in Pomona and horses and other large animals at Cal Poly Pomona

County residents are urged to remain vigilant during the storms and to monitor radio and television news broadcasts, County and city websites, and official Twitter accounts <u>@LACOUEM</u>, and <u>@dpwCARE</u> for important information and updates throughout the rain events. Information from all of the CARE partners, including official press releases and other notifications will be available at <u>www.dpwcare.org</u>.

Individuals with access or functional needs may also call 2-1-1 for LA County information and referral services regarding post disaster resources that are available to those affected by the floods and debris and mud flow. The toll-free 2-1-1 number is available 24 hours a day and seven days a week. 211 LA County Services can also be accessed by visiting www.211la.org.

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