



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

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WINTER TIPS AND INFORMATION

Dear Resident:

As we head into the winter season please be aware of the measures that you can take to protect your property as well as your neighborhood.

BEFORE a storm:

- Make sure storm drain inlets in your neighborhood are cleared of leaves, litter, trash and other debris. When they become clogged, water can't enter and backs up on nearby streets, causing flooding.
- If a creek or drainage channel runs through your property it is your responsibility to make sure it is free of debris and vegetation. Never try to enter the creek if there is fast flowing water.
- Stockpiling of equipment, materials or yard waste on property drainage easements can contribute to flooding if materials are swept into culverts or creeks during heavy rains.
- Make use of sandbags! They are inexpensive and effective ways to prevent or reduce water damage from flooding. Properly placed, they can divert moving water away from doorways, foundations and driveways. Materials are available in the Pavilion Parking Lot.
- For information on protecting your home and property before, during and after a flood, check the following websites: County Disaster Preparedness at www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/ES/main/EEP/preparedness.cfm , FEMA at www.fema.gov , the State Office of Emergency Services at www.oes.ca.gov and the Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District at www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/pw/main/floodcontrol.cfm

DURING the storm:

- Stay inside unless you have urgent business! If you must walk in unfamiliar territory, carry a walking stick and use it! When streets are covered with gushing water, the force can pull open manhole covers and create other hazards for unsuspecting residents.
- Don't attempt to cross flowing water that is above your knees. You can be swept away or injured by floating debris.
- Don't drive! More people are drowned in their cars than anywhere else in a flood! Cars can be swept away in as little as 18 – 24 inches of moving water. The news for trucks and SUVs is not much better.

To report clogged storm drains or hazardous situations call the Public Works Department at 415-453-0291 (7:00 am – 3:30 pm) or call Fairfax Police at 415-453-5330 (24 hour dispatch).

Sincerely,

Debra Sue Johnson-Public Works Director