



# Be Prepared For El Niño

*Are you prepared for El Niño?*

The time to start thinking about what to do in an emergency is before it happens. By following some simple guidelines you can help prepare your family, neighborhood, business or school to be better prepared and self-sufficient in the event of heavy rains.

### **Steps to preparing your home:**

- Make sure your roof, retaining walls, etc., are in good shape and that rain gutters and downspouts are cleared of debris.
- Turn off your sprinklers and irrigation systems before it rains.
- Secure or store trash cans, furniture and other items on patios, porches and yards.
- Make sure your pets are indoors or have safe cover.

### **During a Rainstorm:**

- Stay indoors, if possible.
- To report a life-threatening emergency, including downed power lines, call 911.
- Stay away from storm drain channels and flood control channels.
- If you must drive, be cautious and allow extra time for travel. California law requires that headlights must be turned on whenever windshield wipers are in use, even during daylight hours.
- If you're driving and see flooded roads ahead, turn around. About 80 percent of all flood-related deaths occur when drivers try to navigate flowing water.
- In case of mudslides or flooding, never stay in an area where raw sewage accumulates. If you come in direct bodily contact with raw sewage, consult with your family physician immediately.
- Check on neighbors who may need special assistance, especially seniors, people with disabilities and children and teens who are home alone.



### **After the Storm:**

- Empty any standing water in discarded tires, rain gutters, containers, decorative ponds and potted plants to prevent mosquito breeding.
- The removal and clearing of trees that are not in the public right of way is the responsibility of private property owners. If your vehicle, home or property is damaged by fallen county trees or tree limbs, contact your private insurer to file a claim.
- Beware of scams. Anyone claiming to be roofers and home-improvement contractors must be licensed and bonded. More information is available on the Contractors State License Board website at <http://www.cslb.ca.gov/> (click on Consumers).

### **Additional El Niño information is available at:**

<http://dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/homeowners/intro.cfm>

<http://lacoa.org/pdf/emergencysurvivalguide-lowres.pdf>

# Sandbags are available at the following Sheriff Stations:

<b>NORTH PATROL DIVISION</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Lancaster	(661) 948-8466
Malibu/Lost Hills	(818) 878-1808
Palmdale	(661) 272-2400
Santa Clarita	(661) 255-1121
West Hollywood	(310) 855-8850
<b>CENTRAL PATROL DIVISION</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Avalon	(310) 510-0174
Century	(323) 568-4811
Compton	(310) 605-6500
East LA	(323) 264-4151
Marina Del Rey	(310) 482-6000
South LA	(323) 820-6700
<b>SOUTH PATROL DIVISION</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Carson	(310) 830-1123
Cerritos	(562) 860-0044
Lakewood	(562) 623-3500
Lomita	(310) 539-1661
Norwalk	(562) 863-8711
Pico Rivera	(562) 949-2421
<b>EAST PATROL DIVISION</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Altadena	(626) 798-1131
Crescenta Valley	(818) 248-3464
Industry	(626) 330-3322
San Dimas	(909) 450-2700
Temple	(626) 285-7171
Walnut	(626) 913-1715