

Municipality of
Anchorage
Office of Emergency
Management



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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More Wind on the Way

Helpful information and how you can prepare

The recent windstorm and power outage was a learning experience for us all. High winds are something Alaskans are accustomed to dealing with, but the duration of last week's windstorm and the subsequent power outages showed many residents the importance of preparing for emergencies. And now we have another high wind warning for this weekend.

The National Weather Service has issued a Special Weather Statement for another high wind weather event this weekend. The Weather Service anticipates lighter winds, but there is still a chance for uprooted trees and power outages due to last week's storm and rainfall. Even though the forecast speeds could change over the next few days, we encourage Anchorage residents to prepare in advance.

Ways to prepare:

- Make sure you have supplies in place to take care of your family for 5-7 days. This includes at a minimum food, water, medications, a hand crank or battery operated radio, and flashlights. Also don't forget your pets in your disaster supplies. A supply kit checklist can be found at www.muni.org/oem
- Connect with your neighbors. Neighbors are your most immediate source of help after an emergency. Get connected and prepare together by getting involved in the Emergency Watch Neighborhood Program. www.muni.org/oem
- Remove debris and trees still remaining in your yard. Government agencies can not remove debris and trees on private property because of liability. Contact your homeowner's insurance for a list of tree removal companies and information about your coverage.
- If you know of trees hanging above or near power lines, please notify your electric utility as soon as possible. Numbers can be found on their websites.
- Well owners should be prepared to provide back up generation in the event of a power outage. The city does not provide back up generators.
- For additional preparedness information go to www.muni.org/oem

Know who to call:

- If this is a medical or life-threatening emergency call 9-1-1.
- For information on emergency conditions call the Anchorage Conditions Line at 343-4701.
- If you are calling to report a power outage:
 - Chugach Electric: 563-7494
 - ML&P: 279-7671
 - MEA: 696-7697
- If you need immediate sheltering assistance, please call the American Red Cross of Alaska at 646-5401
- Damage reports may be filed online at www.muni.org/oem or you may call the OEM at 343-1401 during normal business hours if you do not have access to a computer.
- For social service referral during normal business hours or for information during emergency response operations, call 2-1-1.

- For debris removal after it is cleaned up from your yard, call Solid Waste Services at 343-6250 or your regular waste removal service during normal business hours. Trees and other yard waste can be taken to the Anchorage regional dump through September 22, 2012 free of charge.
- For additional information contact the Office of Emergency management at 343-1401

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