



## Prepare for Heavy Rainfall and High Winds

Date: Monday, November 16, 2009

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – With up to 50 millimetres of rain forecast for Greater Victoria by tomorrow morning and winds of up to 70 kilometres per hour developing overnight, the City is asking Victoria citizens to prepare for heavy rain and high winds.

Residents are asked to assist City crews by raking leaves away from catch basins at the edge of roadways and onto boulevards to prevent back-ups and flooding. During periods of heavy rain, there can be more calls than City crews can attend to promptly. Drain back-ups from leaf piles are preventable but common this time of year when rains increase and leaves have just dropped. Residential leaf pick-up began last week.

Businesses, residents, and contractors on building sites should prepare for high winds by securing materials that could become airborne such as garbage cans, patio furniture, retractable canopies, ladders, hoarding, building materials, and awnings.

There is also a likelihood of power outages due to fallen trees or high winds. Residents should be prepared and have flashlights, blankets, a portable radio and spare batteries on hand, and should avoid parking vehicles under trees or hydro wires if possible.

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**For More Information:**

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