



Stormy Weather is a Reminder to Prepare

Date: Friday, October 7, 2015

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — City crews are busy clearing streets of debris and leaves after last night's storm. Inclement weather is a reminder that everyone has an important role to play in keeping the community and property safe and dry during storms.

How to Prepare:

- Keep sidewalks, gutters, drains, and catch basins (storm drain grates) clear of leaves to prevent storm drains from clogging and flooding. Do not rake leaves onto streets and do not push leaves into drains.
- Determine where the storm drain grate is on your street and help to keep it clear. Please rake leaves and tree needles away from grates and onto the boulevard, to allow rain water to enter freely.
- When driving or cycling, be mindful of large puddles in curb lanes, on low areas of roads and at the bottom of hills, as well as areas with large leafy trees.
- Residents, businesses, and contractors on building sites should prepare for strong winds by securing materials that could become airborne such as garbage cans, patio furniture, retractable canopies, ladders, hoarding, building materials, banners and awnings.
- Residents are encouraged to trim dead or damaged tree branches to reduce the danger of these falling onto homes and vehicles during a storm.

Who to Call:

- To report water pooling or flooding on your street, call City of Victoria Public Works at 250.361.0400.
- To report branches or a tree down, call the City of Victoria Parks Office at 250.361.0600. For service after hours (weekends, or weekdays before 8 a.m. or after 4 p.m.), call 250.361.0400.
- To report a power line down, call 911.
- To report a power outage, call BC Hydro at 1.888.POWERON (1.888.769.3766).

During wet, windier months, there is 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 in case of a power outage, and should avoid parking vehicles under trees or hydro wires if possible. For information on what to include in an emergency kit: www.PrepareVictoria.ca.

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For More Information:

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