

NEWS

From the County of San Bernardino
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 21, 2008

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County advises residents to prepare for possible storms

The National Weather Services as well as other forecasting agencies are predicting more cold weather and rain for our area on Friday and another wave on Saturday lasting through Sunday. The county is therefore asking residents in and below the recent areas burned by the wildfires to be aware of and prepare for the possibility of flooding. Other low-lying areas near and adjacent to watercourses may experience localized flooding.

County Public Works crews and safety officials will monitor weather conditions around the clock during these storms. While the rainfall predictions are relatively low, Public Works and the County's Emergency Operations Center and will be poised to alert threatened communities should the need arise. The county has several strategies and tools at its disposal, including the Telephone Emergency Notification System (TENS), door-to-door and loudspeaker notifications, electronic message signs, physical and remote monitoring of flood-control channels and basins, and strategically positioned heavy equipment.

Residents are advised to stay clear of flood control debris basins and channels. Persons can be swept away by a surge of water run off, mudflow, or debris flow. Do not drive where water is over the road as floodwaters can rise rapidly and sweep a car and its occupants away.

The San Bernardino County Flood Area Safety Task Force (FAST) is staying in close contact with the National Weather Service on the subject of developing storm conditions. FAST members include officials from various County departments, cities, and state and federal emergency agencies.

The public can obtain information on storm conditions by accessing the San Diego National Weather Service (NWS) website at <http://www.weather.gov/sandiego>. There is also a limited amount of free sand and sandbags available at county fire stations. Fire station addresses as well as information on placement of sandbags is available on the county website at www.sbcounty.gov/floodinfo by clicking on "Sand and sandbag Information" and "Flood Control Home".