



Plumas County Office of Emergency Services

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Jerry Sipe, Director

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From: Jerry Sipe, Director 283-6367

Preparing for the Wet Weather, High Winds and Power Outages

The National Weather Service is forecasting the first significant winter storm of the season to hit Plumas County late Wednesday through Friday evening. "The Plumas County Office of Emergency Services is preparing for high winds, power outages and possible flooding around county" stated OES Director Jerry Sipe. "Now is the time for our community to check their personal supplies and prepare for winter."

A wet and windy storm is expected to bring significant rain and snow to northern California. A Flash Flood Watch and High Wind Warning are in effect for northeastern California Wednesday and Thursday. Sustained winds of up to 60 miles per hour are expected, which may lead to downed trees and power outages. Leaves and branches may clog drains, leading to localized flooding. Rock slides and debris flows, especially from recent wildfire burn areas, are possible with saturated soil and periods of moderate to heavy rain.

This storm is a reminder to prepare for winter and the months ahead. Here is a quick checklist to help get you started:

1. Sign up for cellular emergency notifications. Go to www.plumascounty.us and click on the Emergency Alert System button to sign up.
2. Check your Supplies. Be sure to store enough water for at least 3 days (one gallon per person per day) in case of a prolonged power outage. Stock up on canned goods and other non-perishable foods. Check flashlight and radio batteries.
3. Prepare a Family Emergency Plan. Discussing what to do before an emergency can help reduce anxiety, especially in children. Be sure children understand the plan, and what to do around downed trees or power lines. Be sure the plan includes your pets.
4. Pack an Emergency Kit or Go-Bag. Most of the items needed for the kit are already in your home. It is just a matter of assembling them before an emergency occurs. Remember important papers, medicines, and personal supplies for each family member, including warm clothing. Keep enough supplies on hand to meet your needs for at least 3 days, preferably 7 days.

The public is urged to monitor changeable conditions and expect localized flooding, hazardous travel conditions, highway closures and power outages.

Additional resources:

- Road information at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi>
- Red Cross Disaster Preparedness Information: <http://www.redcross.org/prepare>
- Updates on the weather and preparedness in Plumas County will be posted at www.plumascounty.us.