

PRESS RELEASE
CITY OF BENICIA
Fire Department
250 East L Street
Benicia, California 94510



Contact: Jim Lydon
Fire Chief/Acting City Manager
Fire Department
(707) 746-4275
Email jlydon@ci.benicia.ca.us

MAJOR STORM EXPECTED THIS WEEKEND – FLOODING PREDICTED Residents Are Encouraged to Prepare

Benicia, CA (January 5, 2017) — A series of strong storms are predicted for Northern California starting Saturday through Monday with the possibility of a follow-up storm starting on Tuesday. Creeks and streams are still running high, and significant rainfall, as well as high tides, could bring the potential for flooding. In addition, gusty winds could bring widespread downed trees and power outages due to already saturated soil. Police, Fire, Public Works, and Parks staff will be available day and night during the storm.

Benicia residents are encouraged to be as prepared as possible. This means checking to make sure that all drains on your property are clear, sump pumps are functioning, and that leaves and other debris are removed. Have plenty of water and food on hand should the power be out for an extended period of time and be prepared to evacuate, if necessary.

You are encouraged to watch this video from the National Weather Service. It highlights details of the upcoming storms and has information to help you prepare: <https://youtu.be/Z76HALXauzM>

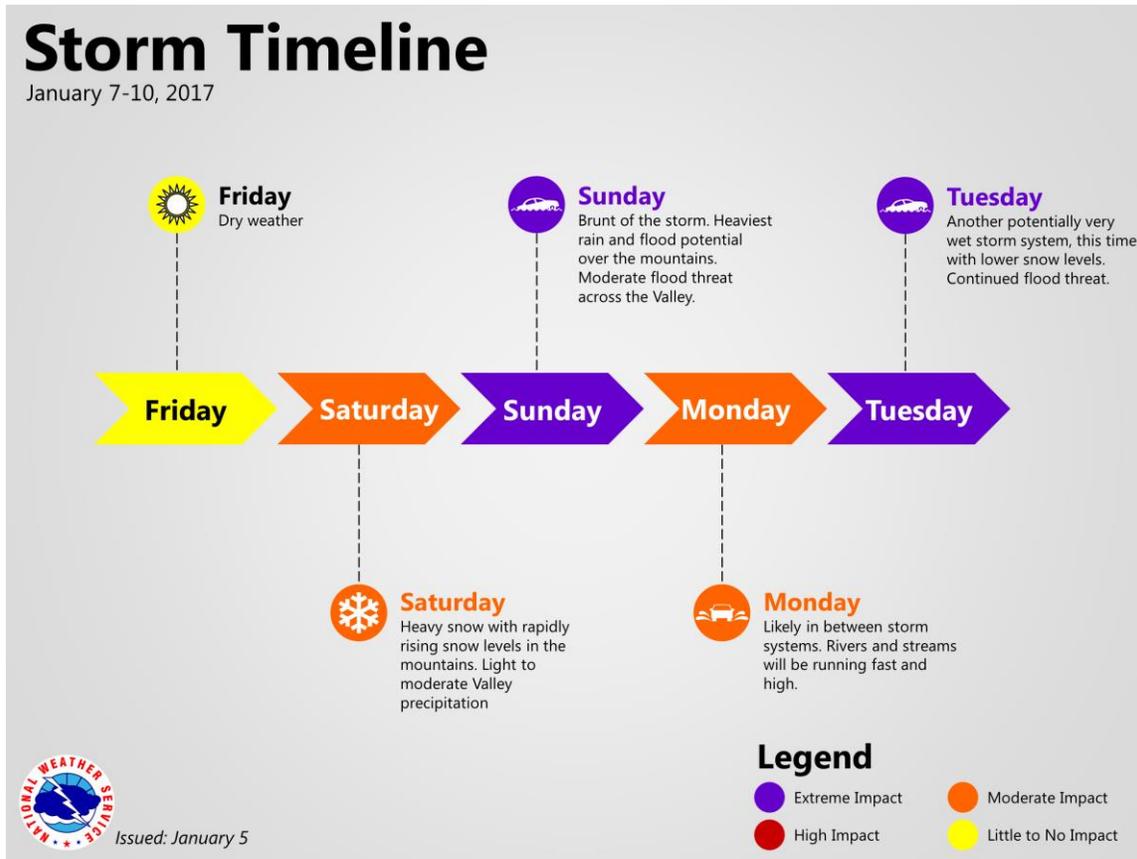
Make sure you are signed up for Alert Benicia at www.AlertBenicia.org to receive emergency/disaster communications from the City of Benicia, including police and fire, and follow #BeniciaStorm on social media.

Please see our [Winter Storm Preparedness](#) page on the City of Benicia website. You'll find information on current local weather conditions, where to fill sand bags, storm drain maintenance, traffic & road conditions, emergency alert info, flood zone and flood insurance info, and what to do after a flood.

Check out these handy publications:
Flood Preparation Flyer 12-17-2015: <http://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/vertical/sit...>

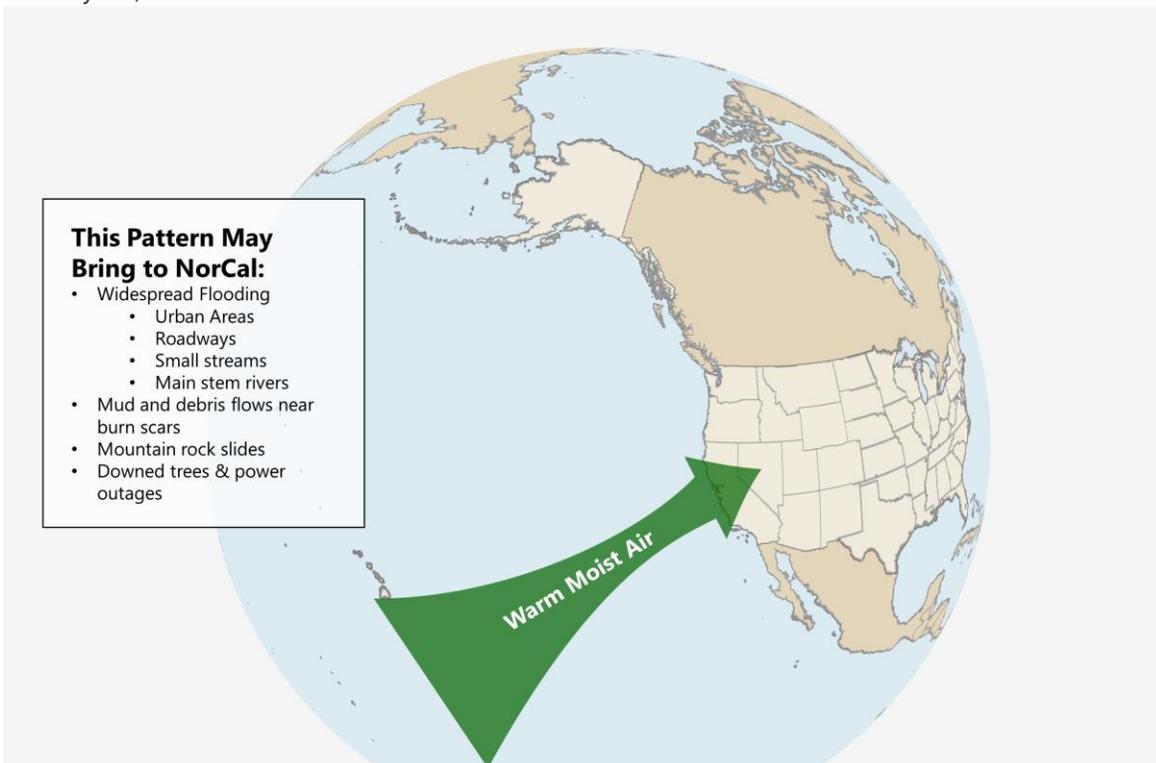
Benicia El-Nino Booklet 2-5-2016: <http://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/vertical/sit...>

The following are graphics related to the upcoming storm(s) from the National Weather Service:



Atmospheric River This Weekend

January 7-9, 2017



Turn Around, Don't Drown!

Flooding expected this weekend: Jan 7-9, 2017



Impacts

- Widespread flooding on rivers & streams
- Reservoir releases likely which will enhance flooding downstream
- Urban & roadway flooding
- Debris flows & rock slides possible near burn scars and along mountain roads
- Downed trees & power outages

Flood Safety Tips

- Have an alternate travel route plan and an emergency preparedness kit.
- Stay tuned to local TV/radio for weather updates.
- Avoid driving through flooded roadways.
- Do not drive around a barricade. Barricades are there for your protection.
- Be especially cautious driving at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers.

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