



El Niño

According to the Climate Prediction Center of the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, there is a greater than 95 percent chance of a strong El Niño lasting through the 2015/16 winter season, which typically brings with it sustained periods of heavy rainfall.

This pamphlet guides the community on how to prepare for the impacts of El Niño.

“This El Niño season is predicted to bring periods of long, recurrent rainstorms”

- Fire Chief David L. White

Resources

- American Red Cross – <http://www.redcross.org>
- City of Culver City — <http://www.culvercity.org/elniño>

County

- County of LA -- Office of Emergency Management – <http://lacoa.org>
- County of LA -- Department of Public Works – <http://dpw.lacounty.gov>
- County of LA -- Department of Public Works Coordinated Agency Recovery Effort (CARE) <http://www.dpw.lacounty.gov/care/>
- County of LA -- Fire Department – <http://fire.lacounty.gov>
- County of LA -- Sheriff's Department – <http://sheriff.lacounty.gov>

Federal

- National Landslide Hazards Mitigation Strategy – <http://pubs.usgs.gov>
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention – <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/landslides.asp>
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) – <http://www.noaa.gov>
- National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) – <https://www.floodsmart.gov>
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – <http://www.fema.gov>
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) – <http://www.usgs.gov>
- USGS Debris Flow Maps – <http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2003/ofr-03-475/>



Culver CITY

EL NIÑO

**Winter 2016
Preparation**





Emergency Plan

Prepare an emergency plan and build a disaster supply kit (for more information, visit: <http://www.culvercity.org/emergencyprep>). Remember that landlines and wireless cell phone towers may not be operational or may be busy during a disaster and it may be easier to call long distance, so designate an out-of-state friend or family member as a “check-in-contact” for everyone to call to give an update as to their whereabouts and status. In order for this emergency/disaster communication plan to work, your loved ones need to know who your “check in-contact” is and your “check-in-contact” must know that he/she has been designated as such. For more information visit the above-referenced website.

Components

- Make sure you have an adequate supply of food, water and medicine on hand so you don't have to leave home during a storm to replenish your supply.
- Stock up on pet food and medicine, and make sure pet ID tags are up to date.
- Register your cell phone, email, and/or office number with the City's emergency alert system (Nixle) by visiting <http://www.nixle.com>. By registering, you will receive timely information regarding emergency notices in the manner you desire.
- Sign up with Alert LA to receive emergency notifications from the County of Los Angeles by visiting: <http://portal.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/alertla>

How you can prepare

Yard Clean-Up — Make a general inspection of your entire yard area for yard debris, outdoor furniture or other objects that could be blown by storm winds. Securing loose items to the ground or removing and storing them indoors may prevent having to collect these items from your roof or from your neighbors' yards.

Drains and Gutters — Make sure all drains and gutters are cleared of debris and are functioning properly before the storm season. If buildings do not have gutters and drains, consider having them installed.

Roofs — Inspect your roof (or hire a roofing contractor) to check for loose tiles, loose shingles, or to look for holes or other signs of trouble that indicate your roof may need immediate repair.

Retaining Walls — Visually inspect all retaining wall drains, surface drains, culverts, ditches, etc. for obstructions or other signs of malfunction before the storm season as well as after each storm event.

Bare Ground — Make sure your yard does not have large bare areas which may be a source for mudflows during a storm event. Put down mulch and establish many native plants to vegetate these bare areas before the storm season.

Tree Trimming — Trim trees and landscaping as needed to ensure that branches and limbs are clear of your structure, driveway and overhead power lines (Contact your power company to trim trees that have grown over or around power lines on your property).

Hillsides

Slopes — Visually inspect all sloped areas for signs of gullying, surface cracks, slumping etc. Also inspect patios, retaining walls, garden walls, etc. for signs of cracking or rotation. Such signs might be indications of slope movement; if you notice any problems, it would be wise to have the site inspected by a geotechnical engineer. If you have concerns about slope stability, flooding, mudflows, etc., consider stockpiling sandbags and plastic sheeting. Residents living in properties that are subject to flooding may obtain free sand and sandbags at any time from Fire Station One, located at 9600 Culver Boulevard. The sand and sandbags are stored next to the driveway/gate located on the north side of Irving Place. Residents may use the shovel, sand and sandbags provided to fill up to 25 of their own sand bags.

Sandbags may be stacked to form a barrier to keep water from flooding low areas. Plastic sheeting may be placed on slopes and secured with sand bags to prevent water from eroding the soil. To learn how to design a sandbag layout based on their specific application, visit: <https://dpw.lacounty.gov/wmd/HomeOwners/sandbags.cfm>

✓ CORRECT



✗ INCORRECT

