



Municipal Services Agency

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## County of Sacramento

### For Immediate Release

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## County's Aggressive Storm Ready Program Averts Serious Flooding

The first major storm of the season brought more than 3 inches of rain to Sacramento in a single day; the historical average stood at 1 inch for the entire month of October. Sacramento County's Storm Ready Hotline 875-RAIN (7246) received 194 service calls Tuesday -- 99 percent of those calls reported minor street flooding due to plugged storm drains. Our Stormwater Utility crews responded to the first call at 6:30 a.m. and continued until 10 p.m.

"Over a period of time, yard clippings and debris build up in the storm drains making them less efficient, resulting in minor street flooding. To minimize this, we began an aggressive program to clean all storm drain inlets within the urbanized areas in the county year round," said Principal Civil Engineer Michael Peterson. "This program is funded by the Stormwater Utility and is just one example of how the county is proactively taking action to prepare for stormy weather."

### Preparing for the Next Storm

- Rake your leaves and dispose of them in your green waste container.
- Logon to our website [www.StormReady.org](http://www.StormReady.org) to monitor local creek levels and storm preparedness tips.
- Stay tuned to local news stations for weather updates or call the National Weather Service at (916) 979-3051.

### Sandbags

If your property has a history of flooding, we encourage property owners to get sandbags in advance of the rainy season and have them on hand throughout the winter. Sandbags are available, inexpensively, at most hardware and home improvement stores. Sacramento County will only open sandbag distribution sites in anticipation of continuous and extended heavy rainfall events where severe, widespread flooding may occur. Due to lead time needed to get sites operational, it is not effective to open sandbags during most storms because by the time the sites are operational, most storms will have passed and localized flooding would have occurred.

The Sacramento County Department of Water Resources is responsible for 1400 miles of pipe and

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48,000 drain inlets within the unincorporated county and the cities of Citrus Heights and Rancho Cordova. For more tips on how you and your family can prepare for the stormy season, visit [www.StormReady.org](http://www.StormReady.org). To report localized flooding, call the Storm Ready hotline at 875- RAIN (7246).

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