

National Weather Service Update

National Weather Service is confident large rainfall amounts with winds 25-30 mph with gusts strong enough to down trees--up to 60 mph is on its way in. The rain should begin shortly after sundown with rains increasing overnight. They stated this is a strong storm. We could receive 5+ inches in the Modjeska area tonight and at an intensity rate of 1 - 1 1/2 inches per hour. The soil is already saturated, please be cautious of burnt trees and vegetation which could be blown over with the winds and become debris flows with the predicted rain rates.

The Storm's LOW is due to pass over us between 2am and 4am. This is when we will most likely see the strongest rain intensity.

The Weather Service is almost definite a FLASH FLOOD WARNING will be issued during this timeframe between 2am - 4am.

Please be advised that mandatory evacuations of the canyons will be ordered if the National Weather Service issues a Flash Flood Warning. A Flash Flood Warning means that flash-flooding and debris flows are imminent or occurring. Be aware that Sheriff's Deputies will NOT be making door-to-door notifications during a flash flood warning. They will utilize a Public Address system and the police car siren as they evacuate themselves from the canyons. It make sure all residents receive the Flash Flood WARNING, residents will also receive a Mass Notification phone call when a FLASH FLOOD WARNING has been issued.

If you choose not to leave, We want to make sure all residents understand at a Flash Flood Warning we will be removing our public works operators for their safety. They will not be on dozers keeping the roads clear throughout the night if a Flash Flood Warning is issued. Please be careful driving on wet roads.

Large Animals can go to the Orange County Fairgrounds (88 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa). Residents must call ahead to (714) 708-1588 to inform OC Fairgrounds that they are coming and to receive directions about which gate to enter. Residents are expected to bring any necessary supplies for their large animals.

A public shelter at El Modena High School, located at 3920 East Spring Street in Orange will be opening at 4pm, Saturday 1/26/08.

If residents have any questions, they can call the Orange County Sheriff's Department Dispatch Center at 714-647-7000.

We continue to monitor the situation and wish all residents the best during this storm.