

## **NEWS RELEASE**

El Centro Fire Department, 1910 North Waterman Avenue, El Centro, CA

\*\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\*

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DATE: Friday, September 28, 2018

## EL CENTRO FIRE DEPARTMENT URGES CITIZENS TO PREPARE FOR ARRIVAL OF TROPICAL MOISTURE FROM HURRICANE ROSA

El Centro, CA - The City of El Centro Staff is working together and coordinating with outside agencies to stay updated on the progress of Hurricane Rosa. Information from The National Weather Service leads us to believe that we can expect possible showers and thunderstorms beginning on Monday and continuing thru Wednesday with the possibility of up to an inch of rainfall between Monday and Tuesday Night. Wind speed could also gust up to 30 mph. There is a risk of flash floods throughout the region as well. We encourage everyone to stay updated regarding weather forecasts, road closures, and press releases. The City will continue to monitor and update information as it comes forward.

We are committed to ensuring the safety of the citizens and visitors of El Centro and we're calling on you to prepare with us. Knowing your risk, getting prepared, and staying informed are just a few steps you can take to get ready for this weather event.

<u>Know Your Risk</u>: To search for general information about risks, visit <u>www.ready.gov</u>. You may also check out <u>NOAA's historical hurricane tracks tool</u> to check the severity and frequency of past hurricanes that have affected our area.

<u>Get Prepared</u>: Take action now to be prepared, as the storm approaches, it is often too late to get ready. Make sure you have family evacuation and communications plans, update your emergency supply kit, and evaluate your flood insurance needs.

- *Know your zone*: Evacuations are more common than people realize. Remember: if a storm threatens your neighborhood and city officials say it's time to evacuate, don't hesitate -- go early.
- Complete a family communication plan: Plan how you will assemble your family and loved ones, and anticipate where you will go for different situations. Get together with your family and agree on the ways to contact one another in an emergency, identify meeting locations, and make a Family Emergency Communication Plan.
- Download the <u>FEMA app</u>: The FEMA App includes disaster resources, weather alerts, safety tips, and a new feature that will enable users to receive push notifications to their devices to prepare their homes and families for disasters. The app also provides a customizable checklist of emergency supplies, maps of open shelters and recovery centers, tips on how to survive disasters, and weather alerts from the National Weather Service.



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 Check your insurance coverage: Most homeowner's insurance policies do not cover damage or losses from flooding. Review your policy, ensure you're adequately covered and understand exclusions, and contact your agent for any changes. If you're not insured against flood, talk to your agent or visit www.floodsmart.gov. Renter's insurance policies are also available and should be considered as a way of protecting your belongings.

<u>Stay Informed</u>: Know where to go for trusted sources of information during an emergency. Monitor local news for weather alerts, watches and warnings in your area and follow directions of local officials. Make sure you have a battery-operated or hand-crank radio available should the power go out.

Additional information is available at <u>www.ready.gov</u>. For City of El Centro information please like our <u>Facebook page</u>, or you may follow us on <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.

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