

Serving the Cities of Kent, SeaTac, Covington, and King County Fire District 37

Professionally and Compassionately Helping People

Wind and Heavy Rains Expected Over Next Four Days

Kent, Wash. - October 12, 2016- Beginning tonight, we are expecting the first big storms of the fall to bring a lot of wind and rain. Wind gusts may exceed 40 MPH and several inches of rain are predicted.

Protect yourself, your family, and your home by following these tips:

When at home:

- Keep your gutters clean and free of debris.
- Help your local street department and clean out storm drains near your home to avoid flooding.
- Store any items that might blow away or be damaged by rain and wind.
- Assess whether your home is at risk due to falling branches.
- Have essentials like baby food, diapers, and medications stocked up.
- Have flashlights and extra batteries ready.
- Have a plan in case you cannot stay in your home.

When you are on the road:

- Check for weather and road conditions before driving.
- Always obey "road closed" signs. They are there for a reason.
- Never drive through moving water, which can sweep even a heavy vehicle away.
- Avoid driving through any standing water. Water can hide lane markers, ditches, and washed out roads.
- If you have to drive through water, drive slowly and steadily. Driving fast can cause you to lose control, flood your engine, and cause difficulties for other drivers.
- Once clear of standing water, drive slowly and tap your brakes to dry them.
- If your vehicle becomes stranded in standing or moving water and you cannot get out safely, call 9-1-1.
- Heavy rain can cause mud, trees, and other debris to slide onto roadways.
- If traveling over mountain passes, check for conditions, closures, and tire restrictions.
- Whenever driving in bad weather, carry a cell phone.
- Carry boots, a rain coat, and umbrella when traveling in wet conditions. This includes for any children in the vehicle.

The Kent Regional Fire Authority wants our residents to be safe. Keep in mind that if you do not have to go out, the safest route may be to not drive at all.

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