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## **WITH RAIN EXPECTED, FIRE DEPARTMENT URGES RESIDENTS TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS WHILE ENJOYING *SUPER WEEKEND***

**GLENDALE, Ariz.** – The Glendale Incident Management Team’s meteorologist is closely monitoring the weather and is forecasting that the Glendale area could receive an inch or more of rain over the next 48 hours as well as thunderstorms tomorrow.

The Glendale Incident Management Team’s meteorologist monitors weather data through various sources, including the Phoenix National Weather Service, the National Weather Service radar images, NOAA weather radios, as well as the current rainfall/streamflow data from the Flood Control District of Maricopa County. If Severe Weather Warnings (thunderstorm, high wind, flood, flash flood) are issued by the National Weather Service, city departments will be notified and if necessary, the Emergency Operations Center may be activated to coordinate information and support operations.

In the meantime, the Glendale Fire Department is urging residents to prepare and take proper precautions, especially if venturing out into the elements to enjoy Super Bowl 49 activities.

### Important safety reminders:

- When you first see lightning or hear thunder, go to a building or a vehicle. Lightning often precedes rain, so don't wait for the rain to begin before suspending activities.
- If outdoors when lightning strikes, avoid water, avoid the high ground, avoid open space, and avoid all metal objects including electric wires, fences, machinery, motors, power tools, etc. Unsafe places include underneath canopies, small picnic or rain shelters, or near trees. Where possible, find shelter in a substantial building or in a fully enclosed metal vehicle such as a car, truck or a van with the windows completely shut.
- Injured persons struck by lightning do not carry an electrical charge and can be handled safely. Apply First Aid procedures to a lightning victim if you are qualified to do so. Call 911 or send for help immediately.
- When driving on the freeway, drive in the center lanes as water tends to pool in the outside lanes.
- Turn on your headlights! It will help you see better on foggy or rainy days and it will help other drivers see you!
- Increase your following distance and watch for brake lights ahead.
- Slow down – it takes longer to stop in wet weather. Plus the faster you drive, the greater the chances of hydroplaning!

- Children need constant supervision around all bodies of water.
- Avoid moving water.
- If your car stalls in rapidly rising waters, get out immediately and climb to higher ground. DO NOT attempt to push your car to higher ground as the ground underneath the surface may be unstable.
- Floodwaters often erode roads and walkways. Flood debris may also hide animals and broken bottles. Avoid walking or driving through it.
- If you must walk or drive in areas that have been flooded, stay on firm ground. Moving water only 6 inches deep can sweep you off your feet. Standing water may be electrically charged from underground or downed power lines. Before it starts to rain, replace old or brittle wiper blades. Wiper blades are inexpensive and are very easy to change!
- Check the tread and inflation of your tires. Properly maintained tires provide the added traction you will need on wet roads.
- Consider carrying a portable car starter with you. That way, if your battery goes dead you can start your car from inside the vehicle rather than getting out of the car to do a conventional jump start with cables.

Resources for residents:

- Sand and sand bags are available at the following locations: (please bring your own shovel)
  - Bonsall Park North, northeast corner of 59th Avenue and Bethany Home Road, next to the hockey rink
  - City of Glendale Community Center North: 14061 N. 59th Ave.
  - GFD Support Services: 7501 N.55th Ave.

Glendale 11 videos that residents may find helpful:

- Monsoon Safety Tips from Glendale Fire Chief Mark Burdick - <http://youtu.be/xN5UHrNlrEg>
- Segment from CBS 5-Glendale 11 partnership “Monsoon: Eye on the Storm” including interview with Glendale Police Chief Debora Black - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4yZca\\_4nRlc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4yZca_4nRlc)

For additional information, visit [www.glendaleaz.com](http://www.glendaleaz.com) and click on the Monsoon section on the home page. Glendale residents that subscribe to Cox Communications can also find updates on Glendale’s TV station, Glendale 11.

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