

For Immediate Release
#69-18

**NYC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISES RESIDENTS IN COASTAL
NEIGHBORHOODS OF POTENTIAL FOR COASTAL FLOODING**

Nor'easter expected to bring rain and gusty winds Friday night through Saturday

Moderate coastal flooding possible during Saturday high tide cycles

October 26, 2018 — The New York City Emergency Management Department today advised New Yorkers living in coastal areas of the potential for coastal flooding Saturday, October 27. According to the National Weather Service, a nor'easter is expected to bring rain and gusty winds to the New York City area Friday night through Saturday and can create moderate coastal flooding during the Saturday high tide cycles. Additional minor coastal flooding is possible during the Sunday morning high tide cycle.

The National Weather Service has issued a Coastal Flood Warning in effect from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday for vulnerable areas near the waterfront and shorelines along southern Queens, Staten Island, and Brooklyn.

A Coastal Flood Warning is in effect from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday for vulnerable areas near the waterfront and shorelines along northern Queens, Manhattan, and The Bronx.

A Coastal Flood Warning means that flooding is expected or occurring. Widespread flooding of low-lying property including parking lots, parks, lawns, and homes or businesses with basements near the waterfront and shoreline is possible. Vehicles parked in vulnerable areas near the waterfront will likely become flooded. Flooding will also extend inland from the waterfront along tidal rivers and bays. Coastal residents in the warned areas should be alert for rising water and take appropriate action to protect life and property.

A Wind Advisory is in effect for New York City from 1 a.m. through noon Saturday, October 27. Strong winds are in the forecast, with sustained winds of 20 mph to 30 mph and gusts up to 50 mph. These conditions may blow down tree limbs, trees, and power lines. Scattered power outages are possible. A Wind Advisory is issued when sustained winds of 31 mph to 39 mph, or gusts of 46 mph to 57 mph are expected or occurring. Winds this strong can make driving in open areas and on elevated roads and bridges difficult for large vehicles like trucks, vans, and SUVs. Drivers are asked to use extra caution.

A High Surf Advisory is in effect from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday along the shores of Brooklyn and southern Queens. This means that high surf will affect beaches in the advisory area, producing rip currents and localized beach erosion.

Safety Tips

NYC residents living in coastal areas expected to experience minor or moderate coastal flooding should take the following preparedness steps:

- Prepare a [Go Bag](#) — a collection of things you would want if you have to leave in a hurry — for every member of your household, including pets.
- Learn the safest route from your home or workplace to safe, high ground in case you have to evacuate. This should be part of your [household emergency plan](#).
- If you live in a flood-prone area, keep materials such as sandbags, plywood, plastic sheeting, and lumber on hand to help protect your home.
- Stay informed. Before and during an emergency, the City will send emergency alerts and updates to New Yorkers through various channels, including Notify NYC. New Yorkers are encouraged to sign up for Notify NYC, the City’s free emergency communications program. To sign up for Notify NYC, download the [free mobile application](#), visit [NYC.gov/NotifyNYC](#), call 311, or follow @NotifyNYC on Twitter.
- When outside, avoid walking and driving through flooded areas. As few as six inches of moving water can knock a person over. Six inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars, causing loss of control and possible stalling. One or two feet of water can carry away a vehicle.
- Stay out of any building if it is surrounded by floodwaters.
- If you see downed electrical wires, do not go near them. Never attempt to move or touch them with any object. Be mindful that tree limbs, leaves, or water can cover downed wires from view. Always stay away from downed power lines because they could be live.
- Report downed wires immediately. If a power line falls on your car while you are in it, stay inside the vehicle and wait for emergency personnel.

Power Outages

- To prepare for a possible power outage, charge cell phone batteries, gather supplies, and turn your refrigerator and freezer to a colder setting. If you lose power, items that need refrigeration will stay cooler for longer.
- Make sure your flashlights and any battery-operated radios or televisions are working. Keep extra batteries.
- If you lose power & have a disability, access and functional needs or use Life Sustaining Equipment (LSE) & need immediate assistance, dial 911.
- Do not use generators indoors.

High Winds

The Department of Buildings (DOB) has issued a weather advisory to remind property owners, contractors, and crane operators to take precautionary measures and secure their construction sites, buildings, and equipment during high winds. The department will perform random spot-check inspections of construction sites around the city. If sites are not secured, the department

will take immediate enforcement action — issuing violations and Stop Work Orders, where necessary.

To safeguard construction sites, builders, contractors, and developers should take all precautionary measures including but not limited to the following:

- Tie down and secure material and loose debris at construction sites.
- Cover electrical equipment from exposure to the weather.
- Store loose tools, oil cans, and extra fuses in a toolbox.
- Secure netting, scaffolding, and sidewalk sheds.
- Suspend crane operations and secure crane equipment when wind speeds reach 30 mph or greater.
- Suspend hoist operations and secure exterior hoists when wind speeds reach 35 mph or greater, unless manufacturer specifications state otherwise.
- Brace and secure construction fences.
- Call 911 if there is an emergency on a construction site.

Buildings Bulletin 2015-029 outlines the requirements for vertical netting, debris netting and material-fall protection devices at buildings and construction sites. To view this bulletin, click [here](#).

To secure a building, property owners should take all precautionary measures including but not limited to the following:

- Bring inside loose, lightweight objects such as lawn furniture, potted plants, garbage cans, garden tools, and toys.
- Anchor objects that would be unsafe outside, such as gas grills or propane tanks.
- Close up and secure patio umbrellas.
- Secure retractable awnings.
- Remove aerial antennas and satellite television dishes.
- Pay attention to local weather forecasts and bulletins issued by the National Weather Service on local radio stations.
- Beware of falling branches if you are near trees.

For more information, visit nyc.gov/emergencymanagement. New Yorkers are encouraged to sign up for Notify NYC, the City's free emergency communications program, for the latest information and updates on this storm and emergency events in NYC. To sign up for Notify NYC, download the [free mobile application](#), visit nyc.gov/NotifyNYC, call 311, or follow @NotifyNYC on Twitter.



**Emergency
Management**

NYC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

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