



For Immediate Release  
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## City Prepares for Additional Storms this Weekend

Harrisonburg, Va. – The city of Harrisonburg is preparing for the threat of additional storms coming through the area starting tomorrow and continuing through early next week.

Emergency personnel, along with staff from other city departments, are making plans and preparing for the possibility of high water, downed trees, and the loss of power. Residents should do the same.

“With the heavy rainfall we received earlier this week, our area is at a higher risk for more high water and flooding with the upcoming storms,” explained Fire Chief Larry Shifflett.

Residents are encouraged to get ready and prepare now before the storms arrive in our area.

### What should residents do?

- Stay home if severe weather arrives and do not drive or walk through high water.
- If you depend on electricity for medical equipment or a mobility device, check that all batteries are fully charged. If needed, make sure you have enough medication and medical supplies for five to seven days.
- Store water in big pans and gather a three day supply of essential items such as non-perishable food, first aid kit, and extra batteries.
- Obtain cash in advance in case ATMs are down and buy fuel now.
- Sign up for text alerts through the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Emergency Alert System by visiting [www.HREmergencyAlert.com](http://www.HREmergencyAlert.com).
- Stay away from downed power lines, trees touching lines and anything else that is touching a power line.
- Stay informed. Listen to a NOAA weather radio and your local media and follow the city’s [social media sites](#) and [website](#).

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- Know the weather terms and act when needed:
  - **Flood watch or flash flood watch** – there is an increased possibility of flooding or a flash flood in your area.
  - **Flood warning** – flooding is occurring or will likely occur very soon. If emergency officials advise you to evacuate, do so immediately.
  - **Flash flood warning** – flash flooding is occurring. Seek higher ground immediately and do not wait for official instructions.

The city will have additional staff from various departments working throughout the weekend, should the threat of this storm continue to increase.

Residents near areas that are prone to flooding should use extreme caution and pay close attention to the water levels.

Call 9-1-1 immediately when experiencing an emergency and know your location to better assist in getting first responders to you.

Additional information is available at <http://www.vaemergency.gov/es>.

*Who will notify you if an emergency-related event is happening in Harrisonburg or Rockingham County? Sign up to receive free alerts through the **Harrisonburg and Rockingham County Emergency Alert System** by visiting [www.HREmergencyAlert.com](http://www.HREmergencyAlert.com).*



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