



**County of Santa Clara**

**DATE:** November 6th, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Property Threatened by Winter Storms

**Dear Property Owner or Resident:**

The intensity of the SCU Complex Fire left our mountains with little or no vegetation to prevent the slopes from sliding. **We have identified that the property you reside on or own may be threatened by Flash Floods, Debris Flows, Mud Flows and/or Landslides.**

With the imminent approach of winter storms, the threat of flash floods and debris flows is **now greater in your community than before the fire – they can happen with little or no warning.** Officials may only be able to alert the public with just a few minutes notice if at all. It is **imperative** that you understand the seriousness of the situation and are prepared. **Do not delay in taking action to protect you, your family and your property.** To gain more information regarding recovery and flood mitigation measures, please visit [www.sccgov.org/lightningcomplex](http://www.sccgov.org/lightningcomplex). **If you do not have access to the Internet, call 211 or Santa Clara County SCU Complex Fire Hotline at (408) 808-7778 (8am to 5pm, Monday-Friday).**

**We recommend that you take the following actions now:**

1. **Sign up for emergency alerts** at [www.alertscc.org](http://www.alertscc.org).
2. **Monitor weather reports and consider your safety risk** when a weather advisory is issued.
3. **Be prepared to leave** before roads, creeks and waterways are flowing, or go to a neighbor on high ground.
4. **Know all your local access roads** and understand that some may be blocked by debris. Have an alternate plan or route. Mudslides can occur even days after a storm when the ground is saturated.
5. **NEVER drive or walk into floodwaters or go around barricades.** It is impossible to know how deep the water is just by looking at it.
6. **Consider installing sandbags**, straw wattles, and other methods to divert water and reduce erosion on your property. Santa Clara Valley Water District offers sandbags. For locations and information, call (408) 265-2600 or go to <https://www.valleywater.org/sandbags>
7. **For more flood protection resources please visit:** [www.valleywater.org/floodready](http://www.valleywater.org/floodready)
8. **Flood Insurance:** Most homeowners insurance does not cover floods from natural disasters. Make sure your home is protected. For more information refer to [FloodSmart.gov](http://FloodSmart.gov).
9. **Have an Emergency Plan and a Disaster Kit ready to go.** For more information, go to <http://www.preparescc.org/readyscc> to find information on our ReadySCC application or you can download FREE from the on the App Store or Google Play.
10. **For information regarding County road closures please visit:** <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/rda/Pages/roadclosures.aspx>
11. **For information regarding State road closure please visit:** <http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov>