



CITY OF COLONIAL HEIGHTS

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Public Safety Building
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MEDIA RELEASE

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TROPICAL STORM ISAIAS

City of Colonial Heights Emergency Management Team continues to monitor the track of Tropical Storm Isaias. The City has already begun to prepare and commit resources in preparation for the storm.

With the potential for Tropical Storm force winds approaching the City of Colonial Heights we encourage residents to take precautions now in preparation of any impacts. Make an emergency supply kit to include essential supplies that will last at least three days.

Supply kits should include:

- battery-powered radio and extra batteries,
- non-perishable food and water, toiletries, flashlights,
- first aid kit and medications. Also, include items needed for
- infants, seniors, and pets.

Secure your property:

- secure any objects that may be blown about by high winds, including plants, patio furniture, garden décor, etc.

Generator Safety

Do not connect your generator directly to your home's wiring. Connecting a portable electric generator directly to your household wiring can be deadly to you and others. A generator that is directly connected to your home's wiring may 'back feed' onto the power lines connected to your home. Always use portable generators outside, at least 20 feet away from windows, doors and vents with exhaust facing away from these openings. Never use portable generators inside your home, garage, or shed. [Click here](#) for a brochure with more generator safety information.

Household Communications Plan

In the event you must leave your home, create a family communications plan by discussing with your family what actions should be taken during an actual emergency. Decide in advance on a meeting place if your family cannot return home. Designate an out-of-town friend or relative as a point-of-contact, and plan for the specific needs of your household, such as transportation of medical equipment or pet evacuation needs.

Watch for Downed Power Lines

We are asking everyone make plans for potential power outage. We are reminding everyone do not go near down power lines and approach down trees with caution. These lines may appear to be without power, but could still be energized. The electrical power in these lines is enough to cause serious injury or death. You can report power outages or downed power lines to Dominion at 866-366-4357.

Road Safety

The City asks that residents remain off the roads during this weather event. If travel is necessary, please review the following suggestions:

- If you do have to drive, drive cautiously;
- If driving, decrease speed;
- Have a full tank of gas;
- Have a cell phone with a full charge with you

Some roads may become blocked with high water. Do not try to drive through high water. Water currents can be swift enough to cause your vehicle to go off the road or overturn. Water could also cause the roadway to fail and you will become trapped.

The emergency management team continues to monitor this storm. We recommend that you stay posted by watching your local news and weather stations. We also ask that you update or become part of the city notification system, Civic Ready.

<http://www.colonialheightsva.gov/918/CivicReady-Notifications>