



*Office of Mayor Lawrence J.
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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June 12, 2013

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CITY OF ROCKFORD PREPARES FOR SEVERE WEATHER

Rockford, IL. June 12, 2013 – City officials met today to prepare for the potential of severe weather in the Rockford area during the early evening hours. Members of the city’s Fire, Police, and Public Works Department coordinated services and resources to insure that teams will be ready to respond to the heavy rains and strong winds that have been predicted.

Public Safety leaders would like to remind citizens to monitor the storm’s progress closely and to use extreme caution if travelling tonight. Operations Chief Joe Corl of the Rockford Fire Department urged residents to plan for the event of a severe storm or tornado and to seek shelter in a basement or storm shelter if needed or to stay with family members or friends if needed.

Rockford Police encourages travelers to stay close to shelter during the storm or to use extreme caution if they are traveling. If the storm is significant, traffic lights may not function or limbs or electrical lines may be in the roadway. Motorists are asked to stay away from downed lines and to approach intersections with extreme caution. In approaching an intersection where a traffic light is not functioning, you are reminded to treat the intersection as a four-way stop.

In the event of an emergency, such as fire or injury, citizens should call 911. For general information, citizens are urged to call 211.

Additional storm safety planning and tips can be found at Illinois Emergency Management Agency website: <http://www.state.il.us/iema/disaster/pdf/severeweatherpreparedness.pdf>

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