



Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
LEADING BOLDLY, WORKING TOGETHER

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Mark Stockman
Superintendent of Street Division Operations

DATE: July 11, 2011

Phone: 815-987-5763

EMERGENCY STORM OPERATION

At approximately 7:00 AM this morning a severe thunderstorm moved thru the Rockford area producing high winds and heavy rain. Although reports of power outages and fallen tree limbs were received from locations throughout the City, the area most heavily impacted is that portion of the City between State St. and Riverside Blvd. Public Works crews and contractors are currently working to clear roadways of tree debris to enable traffic to safely move throughout the City. These efforts will continue throughout the coming week until completed.

Many privately owned trees were also affected by the high winds. Although Public Works crews will be removing debris from city owned trees, cleanup from tree failures on private property is the responsibility of each property owner to address. Small limbs & branches (under 4 inch diameter) can be cut up and bundled in 3 foot lengths and placed at the curbside and Rock River Disposal will pick them up on each neighborhood's respective garbage day. Property owners may need to hire a private tree service to address items larger than 4 inch diameter if they are unable to take care of them on their own.

Citizens should drive with extreme caution when traveling city streets as there may be fallen trees or debris in roadways. Power outages continue to affect the normal operation of traffic signals within the City of Rockford as well. All signalized intersections that are not functioning normally shall be treated as stop sign controlled in all directions.

If questions arise, contact:

Mark Stockman (815) 987-5731

Tim Hanson (815) 985-4635