

# Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

## Santa Barbara Rain and Storm Information

March 20, 2018

Yesterday afternoon, students received the below message regarding expected heavy rain in the Santa Barbara area. With the conclusion of winter quarter approaching, we are aware that many families may be traveling to Santa Barbara and many students may be traveling home. Please consult the Caltrans website for road conditions and other travel information: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/>.

Dear Students,

The forecast for the next few days, March 20-22, is for a severe storm. You can expect lots of rain, particularly tomorrow, and dangerous surf and ocean conditions, as well as potential for urban flooding, particularly in the areas below the Thomas, Whittier, Sherpa and Rey Fire burn areas. Thankfully, the campus is not in any danger from the burn areas, but heavy rains may still affect our area in unpredictable ways; including possible cliff erosion along Del Playa Drive.

UCSB will be in communication with Santa Barbara County and will send out a UCSB Alert if needed for the campus. The County will be sending out alerts as needed for Santa Barbara County areas, including Isla Vista. To sign up for the County alerts register at [www.AwareandPrepare.org](http://www.AwareandPrepare.org).

The County of Santa Barbara will post storm updates and emergency information, including updates about any Isla Vista/Del Playa cliff issues at [www.countyofsb.org](http://www.countyofsb.org). Information is also available on the SB County Twitter feed @countyofsb.

Please read the following tips to ensure your safety over these next few days and throughout the rainy season this winter quarter:

- During rain and storms, stay out of the ocean, away from cliffs and beaches, and beach access areas. Unpredictable surf, waves, and high tides can be dangerous.
- Avoid flooded areas when driving, biking, and walking. If your car stalls in a flooded area, evacuate the vehicle as soon as possible and do not attempt to move a stalled vehicle.
- Do not swim in the ocean for three days following rain because of potentially high levels of contaminants and bacteria in water.
- Stay away from downed power lines, and do not attempt to remove any downed trees or branches.

- **Attention Isla Vista and Del Playa residents:** Rains and heavy surf can erode and undercut bluffs overhanging the beach. Do not walk underneath cliffs due to danger of rock falls and slides. Stay off of balconies and patios during heavy rain and storms. Concerns about cliff erosion that may threaten the stability of a building in Isla Vista can be reported to Santa Barbara County Planning and Development Building & Safety Division at (805) 568-3558. Complaints about building/zoning violations can be submitted online at <http://www.sbcountyplanning.org/permitting/zoning/violations/index.cfm>.
- Immediate concerns about your apartment/house or property (roof leaks, clogged rain gutters, flooding, unstable railings/pilings/supports, or cliff erosion) should be reported to your property owner or manager. Emergencies should be reported to 911. In the event of any displacement of any residents due to storm events, the County has agreements in place with the Red Cross to open up emergency shelter at Earl Warren Showgrounds, Warren Hall, 3400 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, CA 93105 at noon tomorrow (March 20).

A.S. Public Safety Commission would also like to share some tips and information on how to prepare for any upcoming storms:

- Report all existing cracks or holes on the exterior and interior of your home, and ask for them to be repaired to avoid leaks and water damage.
- Check balconies, deck slopes, and flat roofs: Make sure water flows away from the walls and into the drainage system.
- Find out where the electric breaker for your home or apartment is and learn how to turn it off in the event that flooding will reach power outlets. Use extreme caution when working with electrical systems, and never attempt to reset your breaker if you must stand in water to do so. If you cannot safely turn off or reach your breaker, contact an electrician to shut off the power.
- Stock up on flashlights and batteries in case the power goes out. Save your phone battery and grab a flashlight!
- Put together preparedness and disaster supply kits for your home and car. For more information, go to [www.floodprepareCA.com](http://www.floodprepareCA.com). Here's a short list to start your supply kit:
  - Flashlight and backup batteries (1+)
  - First aid kit
  - Whistle
  - Water (1 gallon/person per day)
  - Canned or sealed food and a can opener (2+ days)
  - A battery powered hand crank radio
  - Extra prescription medication/copy of the prescription

## Isla Vista Resources

- AS Pardall Center (6550 Pardall Road - (805-770-3145 - [pardallcenter@as.ucsb.edu](mailto:pardallcenter@as.ucsb.edu))
  - A multi-purpose community space for all community members.
  - Provides centralized source of information and resources for the community and houses the AS Isla Vista Tenants Union, AS Legal Resource Center and AS Public Safety Commission.
- AS Public Safety Commission (6550 Pardall Road - [commpublicsafety@as.ucsb.edu](mailto:commpublicsafety@as.ucsb.edu))
  - Advocates on issues pertaining to public safety, community policing, and community outreach
  - UCIV Volunteer Program which supports safety in Isla Vista via hydration stations, rotational teams, and community engagement
- AS Isla Vista Tenants Union (6550 Pardall Road - 805-968-6704, [ivtenantsunion@gmail.com](mailto:ivtenantsunion@gmail.com))
  - Serves as the point of contact in coordinating crisis response services
  - Advocates for needs of Isla Vista tenants, provides legal education/support, funding for crisis response, and connects tenants to other resources
- AS External Vice President for Local Affairs ([evpla@as.ucsb.edu](mailto:evpla@as.ucsb.edu))
  - Advocates for and represents UCSB undergraduate students in Isla Vista

Stay safe,

Division of Student Affairs and Associated Students  
University of California, Santa Barbara