

Town of West Hartford

50 South Main Street
West Hartford, CT 06107-2431

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Steps to Prevent Flooding on Tuesday as remnants of Hurricane Florence moves into the area

WEST HARTFORD, CONN. (September 17, 2018) – On Tuesday, September 18, West Hartford will experience the remnants of Hurricane Florence.

The National Weather Service reported that there will be two rounds of heavy rainfall. The first is expected during pre-dawn/early morning and the second round of heavy rain will impact the area in the afternoon. Heavy tropical downpours, with 1-2 inches per hour, are expected.

Public Works Director John Phillips said “The main concern is that areas with poor drainage will cause roadway flooding during the rounds of heavy rain. West Hartford residents can help prevent flooding in the street and on their properties by taking a few prevention steps today.”

Keep leaves and debris out of drains:

- Use a rake or broom to remove leaves and debris that may collect on the tops of storm drains in front of your home.
- Avoid piling yard waste such as fallen leaves on your property where it could wash into street drains.

Maintain gutters and downspouts:

- Direct flows from downspouts away from your foundation, without discharging flows to adjacent properties.
- Be sure to clean the gutters and drainage downspouts attached to your roof twice a year to ensure a well-flowing drainage system.
- Inspect for leaks or damage to basement windows and basement hatchways that could cause basements to flood.
- Check that your sump pumps are in good working order and are draining well.

Gary Allyn, Emergency Management Director and Fire Chief, also offered advice. “I strongly recommend not driving through large bodies of standing water. Rescuing people who do that is extremely difficult,” he said.

Town staff will closely monitor storm conditions and will be prepared to address changing conditions. Be careful and be safe!

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