



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY



MASSACHUSETTS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

400 Worcester Road

Framingham, MA 01702-5399

Tel: 508-820-2000 Fax: 508-820-2030

Website: www.mass.gov/mema

Deval L. Patrick
Governor

Timothy P. Murray
Lieutenant Governor

Andrea J. Cabral
Secretary

Kurt N. Schwartz
Director

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CONTACT: Peter Judge, MEMA PIO
(508) 820-2002

MEMA ENCOURAGES PREPARATIONS FOR COASTAL STORM
Coastal Communities Brace for Next Impactful Event

FRAMINGHAM, MA – The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) continues to work with local communities, state and volunteer agencies and organizations to prepare for the potential impacts of the approaching winter storm. The greatest issues are anticipated to take place along the coast, particularly east and north-facing communities.

MEMA continues to host conference calls with the National Weather Service (NWS), state and local officials, particularly coastal communities, due to the greatest threat of moderate to major coastal flooding and beach erosion during Thursday and Friday high tides.

Previous storms this season have had varying degrees of coastal impacts. This storm could present more severe levels of coastal flooding and erosion over the two-day period due to the fierce winds and high seas.

Citizens are reminded to take the following steps in preparation for the storm:

- Monitor Media reports.
- Know your community's methods to warn you, if evacuation is necessary. Listen to your local Public Safety officials and respond to their directives in a prompt manner.
- Know your community's flood evacuation routes, potential Public Shelters, and where to find high ground.
- Test your sump pumps. If possible, have a backup power source.
- Ensure your home is ready. Where possible, minimize damage from basement flooding by elevating materials that could be damaged by basement flooding.
- Anchor fuel tanks to ensure that they do not wash away, creating a safety and environmental issue inside or outside the home.

The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) is the state agency responsible for coordinating federal, state, local, voluntary and private resources during emergencies and disasters in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. MEMA provides leadership to: develop plans for effective response to all hazards, disasters or threats; train emergency personnel to protect the public; provide information to the citizenry; and assist individuals, families, businesses and communities to mitigate against, prepare for, and respond to and recover from emergencies, both natural and man made. For additional information about MEMA and Preparedness, go to www.mass.gov/mema. Also, continue to follow MEMA updates on *Twitter* at www.twitter.com/MassEMA; *Facebook* at

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