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## PRESS RELEASE

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

John Medlock, Jr. Deputy Director (510) 670-5500

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 6, 2017

## ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY PREPARES FOR INCOMING STORM

ALAMEDA COUNTY – In preparation for the winter storms slated to continue soaking the Bay Area, the Alameda County Public Works Agency has been aggressive in its efforts to prevent flooding. Crews have been removing leaves and debris from streets, gutters, and storm drains to minimize any potential flooding. Additionally, as part of their ongoing preventive maintenance program, crews have been clearing debris from creeks and flood channels to facilitate storm water flow.

Residents can assist in these efforts, both preventively and during the storm event, by removing leaves and debris from gutters and storm drain entrances. Other activities individuals can do include:

- Tracking weather conditions.
- Keeping your car fueled: if electric power is cut off, gas stations may not be operable.
- Keep your cell phone charged, and have a car charger on hand.
- Check your emergency supplies (first aid kit, essential medicines, cash, food, water, nonelectric can opener, portable radio, flashlights, and spare batteries) and ensure they are in air-tight bags and in handy locations.
- Keep a rake on hand to clear debris that may clog storm drains during rain storms.
- Secure or remove items that can blow around.
- Keep garbage cans and cars at least one foot from the curb to avoid blocking storm water flows.
- Turn off automatic sprinklers.

The Public Works Agency will provide a maximum of four free sandbags to residents of unincorporated Alameda County at the Alameda County Maintenance and Operations Corporation Yards, located at 951 Turner Court, Hayward. Self-serve sand and bags are also available for residents of unincorporated Alameda County at the Castro Valley Fire Stations, 20336 San Miguel Avenue and 19780 Cull Canyon Road.

For additional information, or to report flooding in the unincorporated area of Alameda County, please call the Maintenance and Operations Department at (510) 670-5500 or visit the Public Works Agency's website at <a href="https://www.acpwa.org">www.acpwa.org</a>.

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