

Office of Risk Management

RISK ALERT

No. 2021-17

RE: Nor'easter

October 25, 2021

A nor'easter is approaching southern New England on Monday, October 25 and is expected to cause heavy winds and potential flooding, with the most significant impact expected on Tuesday, October 26, with lingering showers into Wednesday.

A flood watch has been issued for all of southern Massachusetts, with recently fallen leaves potentially exacerbating flood concerns due to clogged drains. Rainfall totals of 3-5 inches are also expected, with locally higher amounts possible. Rainfall rates may exceed one inch per hour at times, with the Tuesday evening commute being the most impacted.

A high wind watch has been issued for eastern, northeastern, and southeastern Massachusetts and northern and southern Rhode Island. Northeast winds of 25 to 35 mph are expected, with gusts up to 65 mph possible in coastal areas and southeast of Boston, which could lead to tree damage and produce power outages.

At this time, we urge you to make the following preliminary preparations:

- Efforts to **protect property** should now be underway. Prepare for wind damage. Act now to complete preparations before the wind becomes hazardous.
- **Closely monitor NOAA weather radio or other local news outlets** for official storm information and changes to the forecast.
- Some trees in our area may be more susceptible to wind damage. **Immediately inspect trees and bushes. Remove dead or rotting branches that could fall and cause injury or damage.**
- **Be prepared for potential power outages** as a result of downed power lines caused by storm activity. Have an emergency supply kit on hand, including water, flashlight, extra batteries, a first aid kit and non-perishable food.
- **Secure outdoor objects** that could blow away or cause damage to people/property.
- **Check to see if sump pumps are working**, and advise custodians to check all drains, grates and basins to ensure they are free of leaves and debris. The excess rainfall that we've experienced means the grounds are even more susceptible to flooding.

Property Damage

If you experience property damage, report the claim immediately at 617-746-5743 or via the online form at: <https://rcabrisk.org/property-claim-report/>. For a list of service vendors, go to: <https://rcabrisk.org/vendors/>.