Wind Safety

- Strong winds can compound fires, therefore residents should be vigilant of fire hazards and be especially careful when using fire and equipment that can generate heat and/or sparks. This includes vehicles, grills and power tools.
- Those living near flammable vegetation should also remain vigilant to the possibility of wild fires. Immediately report smoke and/or flames to 9-1-1.
- Remember, in less than 30 seconds, a small flame can get completely out of control and begin filling a home with thick, black, poisonous smoke. In just a few minutes, a home can become completely engulfed with flames.
- High winds can also cause downed power lines. Always assume them to be energized and potentially lethal. Remember, the downed wires can electrically charge bodies of water, chain-link fences, or other conductive sources, so be extremely careful and report them to 9-1-1.
- During high winds, avoid the use of candles, lighters, fire pits and fuel-powered lanterns. If you experience a loss of electrical power, do not use devices designed for outdoor use to light, heat or cook inside your home. These pose a fire and carbon monoxide poisoning risk.
- Secure household items like outdoor furniture and trash/recycle bins that can cause bodily harm or property damage if catapulted by a wind gust. Remove any flammable items from outside your home.
- Avoid being outside as much as possible. But if you must venture outside, look out for toppling trees and wind-blown debris. Wear sturdy glasses to protect your eyes.
- If you are driving during high winds, be aware of high-profile vehicles that can be buffeted by turbulent winds. Slow down and anticipate flying debris coming across the road.