



El Niño Resources for LAUSD Employees

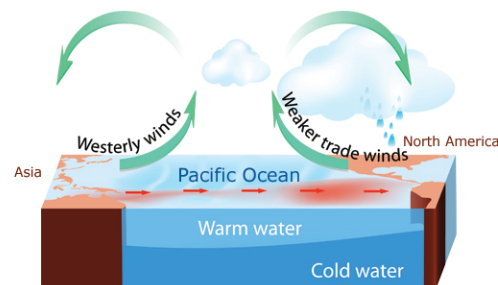


El Niño weather is expected January through March in the Los Angeles area, bringing a “season of storms” with rain and high winds. Flooding is one major hazard we face. LA’s flood management system is ready to handle El Niño rains, but floating objects and accumulated debris can block storm drains and

cause street flooding. Mudslides are another risk from El Niño. When bare hillsides see a lot of rain, the ground can come loose. When this happens, mud and debris quickly flow downhill.

El Niño is a pattern of warmer ocean waters in the Eastern Pacific. During a strong El Niño, these warmer waters can intensify LA’s normal wet season, which happens between October and February. Forecasters expect the peak of our wet weather for this El Niño to occur between January and March 2016.

El Nino



Prepare your home and family for weather emergencies.

• For family emergency preparedness:

- ▶ **Get a kit** – Remember: You’re On Your Own for 7 Days. A list of basic kit items can be found at <http://yoyo7.lausd.net>
- ▶ **Make a plan** – family evacuation and communication
- ▶ **Be informed** - identify sources for weather information, such as local radio, TV or NOAA weather radio, and download the LAUSD Emergency Plan app <http://achieve.lausd.net/emergencyapps>

• For home weather preparedness:

- ▶ Clean and repair gutters, downspouts, and drains.
- ▶ Check for leaky windows, doors, and roofs.
- ▶ Trim trees, check slopes for signs of erosion, and reduce sprinkler use.
- **Remember**, you are a Disaster Service Worker and may need to stay at work for an extended period of time during an emergency. Check with your supervisor for specific instructions.
- **Keep** emergency supplies in car and at work, including food, medication, rain gear and extra clothing.
- **Wear** weather-appropriate clothing and protective gear.
- **Allow** extra time to get to/from work in wet weather.





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Driving Tips

- **Headlights on** will help you see better on foggy or rainy days and it will help other drivers see you.
- **Increase following distance** and watch for brake lights ahead.
- **Slow down.** It takes longer to stop in wet weather, and the faster you drive, the greater the chances of hydroplaning.
- **Turn around, don't drown.** Never drive through moving flood waters. It takes just 12 inches of water to move a car.



Internet Resources

- Classroom El Niño instruction and activities
<http://www.elNino.noaa.gov/>
- LAUSD El Niño resources
<http://achieve.lausd.net/elnino>
- LA County El Niño resources and general guidelines
<http://www.lacounty.gov/elNino>
- LA City resident El Niño resources and general guidelines
<http://www.elNinola.com/>
- Disaster preparedness
<http://www.redcross.org/prepare>
- Disaster preparedness
<http://www.ready.gov/natural-disasters>
- LAUSD emergency training video courses
<http://achieve.lausd.net/steps>



Know Weather Lingo

- **Watch:** Conditions are favorable for an event; usually covers a large area and timeframe.
- **Advisory:** Conditions are likely to occur but not severe enough to prompt a warning.
- **Warning:** An event is already occurring or is likely to occur immediately. Warnings are only issued for severe events that threaten life safety.