



## El Niño Alert

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is a federal agency focused on the condition of the oceans and the atmosphere. They are also known as the National Weather Service and they are predicting a large El Niño event for the winter of 2015 and stretching into the spring of 2016. El Niño is a weather phenomenon that is predicted to bring the jet stream south this year and into next year and is expected to bring large amounts of precipitation to southern California. Although El Niño can bring beautiful wildflower blooms to the desert, it can also bring flooding so residents need to be prepared. The City is suggesting residents do the following to prepare for El Niño:

- Clean/clear roof drains and downspouts;
- Trim large trees in your yard;
- Ensure that there are no low areas adjacent to your house so any storm water drains away from your home;
- Have sufficient water/food/medicines on hand in case you are house-bound due to flooding and/or power outages due to storm conditions;
- Have fully charged batteries/flashlights in your home;
- Remind your HOA (if you live in such a community) to have retention basins checked for proper operation (clogged drains lead to overflowing and flooding);
- Go to one of the City's two Fire Stations to self-fill sandbags. A supply of bag, a pile of sand, and a shovel for filling the bags are provided on site. Pre-filled sandbags will also be available at the upper parking of City Hall by December 1st.

Residents may rest assured that the City is also planning and preparing for El Niño to minimize any impacts we all may feel. Although we can't be sure of the impact of El Niño, a properly prepared citizenry will go a long ways in avoiding severe disruptions to your life.

