

# Monsoon Ready in Mesa



Keeping Mesa streets safe



## SANDBAG STATIONS

Summer time in Arizona ushers in the season of storms. The City of Mesa, like most Valley cities, is prepared for the monsoon season and would like to remind residents how to be ready when a storm strikes. One way residents can protect their homes from rising waters is with free sandbags available at five Mesa fire stations and both Transportation Department sites.

Free sand and empty bags are available at the following City locations (bring your own shovel):

- Fire Station 202, 830 S. Stapley Dr.
- Fire Station 204, 1426 S. Extension Rd.
- Fire Station 205, 730 S. Greenfield Rd.
- Fire Station 209, 7035 E. Southern Ave.
- Fire Station 212, 2430 E. Ellsworth Rd.
- Transportation Department Building, 300 E. 6th St. (*west side of building*)
- East Mesa Service Center, 3965 E. Decatur St. (*front parking lot*)

Fill the bags one-half to two-thirds full. The bag should lie fairly flat when filled.



Overfilled bags are too firm and do not nestle into one another; Tight bags make for a leaky sandbag wall. Tying bags is not necessary.

For more information about sandbag availability in Mesa call **480-644-2160**.

For tips on how to properly fill sandbags and general safety tips during storm situations, visit [youtube.com/mesafiredept](https://www.youtube.com/mesafiredept). 

## **STORM DRIVING TIPS**

### **High Winds**

- If you are driving in high winds, reduce speed and anticipate steering correction when moving from protected to unprotected wind areas.
- Be aware of high profile vehicles; trucks, semis, buses, campers or those towing a trailer. They can be unpredictable during high wind conditions.

### **Dust Storms**

- If you are caught in a dust storm while driving, pull off the roadway as far as safely possible.
- Turn off your headlights and taillights, put your vehicle in park and take your foot off the brake.



With reduced visibility, other drivers behind you could see the brake lights and assume you are driving on the road and follow your lights.

## **Floods**

- Never drive into a flooded roadway. It is extremely difficult to estimate the depth of running water or the strength of a current.
- Never drive around barricades. They are there for a reason, usually because flooding is anticipated or has already happened, or the road could be damaged and unsafe for drivers.
- It only takes one or two feet of water to float most vehicles, including SUVs.
- Do not let children play in storm water retention basins and floodwaters; The storm water and floodwaters may contain harmful contaminants.

## **Heavy rains**

- Drive slow! Traction on tires may be different than in dry conditions, having the potential to cause tires to hydroplane.



## STORM RESPONSE

As monsoons move, Mesa departments throughout the City are ready to respond to any emergencies day or night.

Transportation Department staff monitor weather stations and water-level data closely to gauge threats of flooding. During potential monsoon storms, standby employees are staged to ensure quick responses to any rising water situation. Five self-contained storm response trailers are always ready to deploy with front-line tools necessary to mitigate water damage.

The Transportation Department also manages and maintains the City's storm drain system, ensuring streets drain rainfall properly to keep roads as safe as possible for the traveling public.

Flooding isn't the only concern when storms occur. Power outages are also a possibility, and to a lesser extent, natural gas leaks. Residents are reminded to always stay away from downed power lines and to call **911** to report downed lines or a possible natural gas leak or break (the smell of rotten eggs). To report a power outage, City of Mesa customers should call **480-644-2266** and SRP customers can call **602-236-8811** for 24/7 customer service.

Mesa Fire & Medical crews and Mesa Police are always ready to respond to emergencies. In case of emergency, always call **911**.



*Mesa Transportation  
Driving Mesa's Future*

P.O. Box 1466  
300 E. 6th St.  
Mesa, AZ 85211-1466

**transportation.info@mesaaz.gov**  
**480-644-2160**  
**480-644-2262 (after hours)**

Report potholes, graffiti, street light outages and more, download the City's free mobile app. Search Mesa CityLink to download from the App Store or Google Play.

