



For Immediate Release

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December 22, 2022

MOUNT VERNON—Perhaps the best recipe for treacherous driving conditions and urban flooding would be (a) having snow on the ground (as we currently have); then (b) adding some additional overnight snow (as forecasters are calling for tonight); and finally, (c) a transition in weather patterns that drops freezing rain onto our already snow-covered Mount Vernon streets.

Then throw in a warming trend, followed by heavy rain, and this might one of those holiday recipes you want to file in the back, along with Aunt Bethany’s cat food jello mold.

The City’s Public Works Department is asking for your help. If Friday morning conditions are as bleak as they appear they may be, please try to suspend any driving that is not absolutely necessary. If you do have to go out, please use extreme caution on the roads.

Secondly, please keep an eye out for clogged or blocked storm drains (or catch basins) along the sides of our streets. These drains are designed to get rain and melted snow off of our streets and into our wastewater treatment facility.

Blocked storm drains can quickly cause urban flooding. If you see that ice, snow, or debris are blocking one of these storm drains, please either:

- Safely clear the area around the drain to remove any obstruction to the flow of water into the drain; or
- Call 360-336-6217 and let us know about it

City has additional staff patrolling for potential urban flooding issues, but the community’s assistance will help us immensely in our efforts to keep the streets safe. Thank you!

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Please help us keep these drains clear! Thank you!