

The Office of Emergency Management offers the following information:

The Office of Emergency Management has been preparing the City of Moreno Valley for the anticipated El Niño season. Although in the recent weeks we have not experienced the amount of El Niño rainfall predicted, there is still time in the season for high levels of precipitation to affect Moreno Valley. The preparedness team has not lost sight of striving to be the “best prepared city in California” and has continued numerous actions to ensure we are obtaining the overall goal. Below are some efforts you can do to continue to prepare:

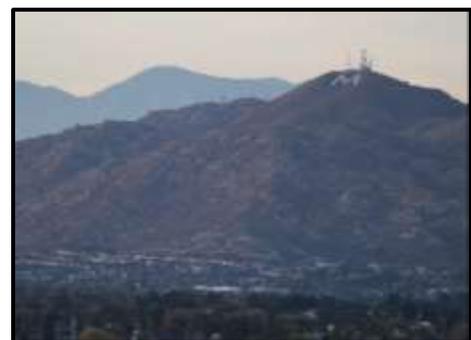


- Register for the City’s Alert and Warning Notification System, AlertMoVal at www.moval.org/alert.
- View the 3 minute El Niño preparedness video created by MVTV-3 on You Tube by visiting <https://youtu.be/oCiFwxNEPgl>.
- Please continue to take advantage of the City’s free pre-filled sandbag program by visiting any of the seven Fire Stations or the City Yard (while supplies last). All residents within the City of Moreno Valley are allotted 50 pre-filled sandbags per household. For more information, please visit the City’s comprehensive El Niño webpage at www.moval.org/elnino.

For additional information, please call the Office of Emergency Management at 951.413.3800 or email us at OEM@moval.org.

The Moreno Valley Fire Department offers the following information on hiking safety:

Many people have discovered that walking and hiking are safe and healthy ways to keep active and have fun. With the temperatures rising as the summer season approaches, the Moreno Valley Fire Department would like to share some helpful safety tips.



Communicate

- Hike with friends and family. Not only is the companionship a great way to share the experience, but it provides added safety benefits.
- Inform someone not hiking with you of your intended location and intended return. Make sure to take a cell phone in case of an emergency. Be prepared to provide a latitude/longitude of your location if needed.
- Remember to make contact after your return.



Stay Hydrated – Prevent heat-related illnesses

- Pack water/drinks, snack bars, or other easily carried foods.
- Drink fluids (non-alcoholic) often. Don't wait until you're thirsty to drink
- Don't drink liquids that contain alcohol or large amounts of sugar; these actually cause you to lose more body fluid.
- Avoid very cold drinks as they can cause

stomach cramps.

- Be aware of your limitations and be cautious not to overexert yourself.

Stay on the trails

- Trails are there for your safety. Walking off-trail can increase your chances of suffering an injury or even getting lost.
- If you encounter wildlife on the trail, keep your distance and back away slowly. DO NOT run.
- Be aware of your surroundings. Remember, although the sights are beautiful, you share the mountains with other wildlife and plants.
- Be aware of the elements. Check the weather before you set out and pack clothes accordingly.

The Moreno Valley Fire Department offers the following information:



With the summer season approaching and temperatures rising, so do the incidences of snake sightings and injuries. The Moreno Valley Fire Department would like to share some important safety tips about snakes, particularly rattlesnakes which are common to Southern California.

Snake Facts:

- Snakes can strike at a distance up to one-half their body length.
- A snake can still bite if its head has been separated from its body.
- A rattlesnake doesn't always provide a "warning" by rattling before striking.
- Snakes will also hide in shoes left outside, so always check shoes or boots before wearing.

What can I do to keep snakes away from my house?

- Keep grass and vegetation in your yard cut short.
- Trim shrubs and bushes so you can see the ground under them.
- Remove piles of debris, including branches, leaves, boards and logs, as these provide hiding and nesting places for many kinds of snakes.

What do I do if I see a snake?

- Walk! Do not run away from the snake. Take two steps backward and watch where the snake goes, then calmly turn around and leave the snake alone.
- It is recommended to contact a professional to remove the snake.
- Do not kill the snake.
- If safe to do so take a picture, so that a professional can provide you with positive identification.

What should I do if bitten by a snake?

- Remain calm, and remove yourself from the area immediately.
- Call 911 and seek medical attention immediately.
- If you know or suspect the snake is venomous, remove any constricting jewelry, watches, clothing, etc.
- Keep the victim and/or injured limb still as you would a strain or break.
- Clean the bite area thoroughly (however, do not suck the venom from bite).
- Do not apply ice; do not use a tourniquet, and never cut on the fang marks.



Tips to keep your pets safe:

- Get your dog the rattlesnake vaccine. Pets make great hiking companions but it is important to keep them safe as well. The vaccine will help reduce/delay the effects of the venom if they are bitten by a rattlesnake. Ask your vet about the rattlesnake vaccine.
- Keep your pet on a 6 foot leash. Keeping your dog from wandering too far can help you and your companion escape safely if needed
- Avoid rocky or dense brush. Staying on the trails and avoiding rocky or dense brush will allow you to see ahead and avoid any areas as needed.
- If you or your pet encounters a snake, walk away slowly!
- If your pet is bitten, they will need immediate veterinary care. Make sure to immobilize your pet and keep them as quiet as possible, the more your pet moves the quicker the venom will circulate through their body.

The Moreno Valley Fire Prevention Bureau offers the following information regarding hazard abatement:



The summer of 2015 was reportedly one of the most devastating years for wildland fires since 1960. California firefighters responded to 6,335 wildland fires that destroyed approximately 307,598 acres of land. Due to the continuing drought, it is anticipated that California will continue to experience an

increased risk for potential fires. Limiting these risks and protecting the welfare of our residents and first responders is a priority in the City. The Moreno Valley Fire Department would like to share some important information.

The Moreno Valley Fire Prevention Bureau inspects and enforces the abatement of approximately 1,500 vacant parcels, which can pose a danger to the health, safety and welfare of residents and first responders. The primary function of the Hazard Abatement Program is to reduce the risk of fires within the community by pro-actively establishing defensible space and reducing/ removing combustible materials on properties.



Notices have been sent to landowners detailing the requirements for abatement and informing them of the upcoming inspections that will begin on April 1, 2016. To reduce the risk of wildfires, it is imperative that landowners limit the amount of combustible fuel on their parcels. Any questions regarding the Hazard Abatement Program can be addressed to the Fire Prevention Bureau at 951.413.3370.

For more information, please visit http://www.moval.org/city_hall/departments/fire/fire-prevention.shtml.