

NEWS ADVISORY

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Winter storm drenches Las Vegas Valley

While winter rains tend to be more gentle than intense summer storms, the last few days have brought record rainfall amounts to the Las Vegas Valley.

Regional Flood Control District (RFCD) rain gages recorded rainfall all across the Las Vegas Valley. Approximately two dozen gages reported more than an inch of rain in the past three days, with two gages reporting over two inches in that timeframe. RFCD gages recorded almost six feet of water in the Carey-Lake Mead Detention Basin (located south of the North Las Vegas Airport), with several other facilities capturing three feet or more. Approximately 138 gages located throughout Clark County transmit current rainfall amounts to computers in the District's offices. Some of these gages also report water level data. Information about this can be accessed via the District's website at www.ccrfcd.org.

With additional rain in the forecast, it is important that residents be cautious and stay away from low road crossings and streets that may be closed due to flooding. Children should also not be allowed to play in flood control facilities. Channels and detention basins can quickly fill with flood water that contains debris and pollutants.

The Regional Flood Control District has been constructing flood control facilities since 1987 and anticipates another 25-30 years of construction before the entire Master Plan is completed. Another 64 detention basins and 460 miles of channels remain to be built. Currently there are 62 detention basins and more than 350 miles of channels helping to protect Clark County residents from flooding. Approximately \$836 million has been spent for flood control improvements countywide with another \$1.7 billion more to be funded.

