



**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **TAKING THE SAFE ROUTE AND PLANNING FOR A DISASTER**

**PURCELLVILLE, Va. September 13, 2018** — The Purcellville Police Department would like to share a few safety tips for the predicted weather and to help ensure our residents know how to be safe during rainy weather events in the future. Potential for flooding, power outages, and downed equipment and trees may still affect our area in the next few days. In preparation, here are a few safety tips.

- **Turn around don't drown!** Underestimating Mother Nature can be dangerous; especially the force and power of water. Each year, more deaths occur during thunderstorm related threats due to flooding than from any other hazard. Never drive around the barriers blocking a flooded road. Twelve inches of rushing water can sweep away most cars, and two feet of rushing water can carry away a truck or SUV. An adult can be knocked over by a mere six-inches of fast-moving floodwater. For information about surviving floodwaters visit <https://www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=754>
- **Check on elderly and infirmed neighbors/relatives before, after, and if safe during the event.**
- **See it report it!** Report downed powerlines, trees blocking roadways, and flooded streets to the Loudoun County Sheriff's Non-Emergency number 703-777-1021 or call 911 if it is an emergency. Never approach downed powerlines, report immediately.
- **Power outages to traffic lights.** When a traffic light is completely dark, treat it as a stop sign. For more information on traffic lights visit this VDOT webpage [http://www.virginiadot.org/info/faq/traffic\\_lights.asp](http://www.virginiadot.org/info/faq/traffic_lights.asp)

For the latest information on Road Conditions and Closures, visit the Virginia Traffic Information site at <http://www.511virginia.org>. You can even download their mobile application to track the most up to date information. Residents can also sign up for local weather and warnings from the Town, <https://www.purcellvilleva.gov/list.aspx> and the County <https://www.loudoun.gov/alert>.

### **The Town of Purcellville, Virginia**

Purcellville is an award-winning town of over 9,000 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 40 miles west of Washington, DC. Having received the prestigious Siemens Sustainability Award for Small Communities, Purcellville continues to be honored for its green initiatives with most recently being the Tree City USA recipient for the 10th year. The Town was reaffirmed as an AAA rated community by S&P Global Ratings, the highest credit rating possible, and is recognized as one of the safest towns in Virginia. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, Purcellville has maintained its historic old-town feel through the restoration and maintenance of its many downtown structures, reflecting the Victorian architecture popular during the early 1900s. Today, Purcellville is the economic hub of western Loudoun County and a popular weekend destination for antiques, entertainment, farmer's markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at [www.purcellvilleva.gov](http://www.purcellvilleva.gov).

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