

For more information, contact:

Phillip A. Platz
Utilities Communications Coordinator
City of Cedar Rapids
Cell: (319) 249-9786
p.platz@cedar-rapids.org
www.CityofCR.com



MEDIA RELEASE

Storm Response Update

CEDAR RAPIDS, IA — November 12, 2020 — Storm response updates for November 12, 2020. A full list of resources can be found on the City’s website: www.cedar-rapids.org.

Nonorganic Storm Debris – Final Pass Begins November 15

Crews continue to pick up nonorganic storm debris such as shingles, fences, siding, etc. **The final pickup of nonorganic storm debris will begin November 15, 2020.** Crews will go through the entire community starting on November 15, picking up all remaining debris piles that have not already been reached. Residents should have all storm-damaged items to the curb by November 15, in the event their house is the first to be collected (similar to having your garbage bins placed out by 7 a.m. on garbage day). **Areas marked completed on or after November 15 will have no further pickup of nonorganic debris.**

Please keep nonorganic debris separate from tree debris, out of the street and sidewalk. Find more information and a list of items that are accepted for collection on the City’s website.

Direct Link: http://www.cedar-rapids.org/nonorganic_debris_info.php

Tree Debris Removal

Crews are currently making additional passes in all quadrants of the city. A cut-off date has not yet been established for tree debris pickup; crews will continue to collect tree debris in the right-of-way until a reasonable cut-off date is determined based on remaining material. The cut-off date will be communicated to the public in advance so residents know when the final pass will occur. To date, crews have picked up approximately 2.81 million cubic yards of tree debris.

Crews will return to each street multiple times; however, residents can also report missed locations on the City’s website.

Direct Link: http://www.cedar-rapids.org/tree_debris_removal.php

City Limb and Tree Removals

Crews continue to work on the removal of hazardous limbs from City trees and hazardous limbs from private trees that are hanging into the right-of-way and have the potential to fall. Trimming has been completed in approximately 46 zones, out of 63 zones.

Crews are trying to move quickly to address safety issues before winter, and will leave limb debris behind for pickup at a later date. Residents can assist by pushing limb debris curbside for pickup. Contractors may remove hazardous limbs now for safety, and then return at a later date to remove the entire tree if necessary.

Street tree removals are also underway on trees that are structurally unsound and need to be removed. Debris created during this removal process will be collected during the next pass of tree debris pickup; crews will remove tree root balls and tree stumps at a later date. A map showing where public tree work is underway may be viewed on the City's website.

Direct Link: http://www.cedar-rapids.org/tree_inspections_info.php

Public Parks

The Parks and Recreation Department has contracted with Boomerang Corp. for tree and debris removal in public parks. Tree debris removal is currently underway in the following parks, which are closed:

- Ellis Park
- Ellis Golf Course
- Daniels Park

Find an updated list of Park openings and closures [on the City's website](#).

Burn Ban Remains

The Fire Department continues to evaluate the burn ban on a regular basis. The burn ban remains in effect until further notice. The Fire Department understands that recreational fires are an activity that many residents enjoy, however there is still a significant fire risk in the community by additional tree debris that needs to be collected. More importantly, there are many homes that have plastic tarps over large sections of the roof as home owners wait for repairs. There is concern that a spark from a recreational fire could unnecessarily endanger others.

The Fire Department is allowing Liquid Petroleum (LP) gas and natural gas fire pits to be used. However, no wood-fired recreational fires are allowed due to the possibility of sparks. The Fire Department will continue to evaluate the burn ban on a regular basis and provide updates to the community.

Garbage, Recycling and Yard Waste Collection

Solid Waste & Recycling collection continues from the STREET and NOT the alley until further notice.

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