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# PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

For immediate release Thursday, August 13, 2015

## City continues storm cleanup

Parks and Recreation's Urban Forestry Division is continuing to remove storm debris and hazards from City-owned trees. Here's what you can do about damaged trees and tree debris:

### **For boulevard trees located between sidewalk and curb:**

(And any public tree located in City right-of-way)

#### **NEW INFORMATION AS OF 8-13-15**

- The storm debris drop-site at McCormick Park will close on Sunday, August 16 to make room for Phase II construction at Silver Summit playground.
- **Commercial businesses are prohibited** from using temporary City park debris drop-sites. The sites are for private citizens only and are provided as a public service. The City has limited resources to process storm debris and cannot handle additional materials from contractors. If you are a commercial business, please dump storm debris at Eko Compost, Republic Services or other refuse sites available for commercial use. Violators can be cited for violations of applicable City of Missoula code provisions or ordinances.
- City forestry crews will continue to remove debris along major traffic routes during early morning hours and on weekends when traffic is lightest.

#### **PREVIOUSLY DISTRIBUTED INFORMATION**

- Private citizens may drop storm debris at one of these free drop-sites: McCormick Park parking lot (through August 16), Pattee Creek and Stephens lot at Playfair Park, Fort Missoula South Avenue lot.
- Eko-Compost is accepting tree debris from the general public at no charge: 1125 Clark Fork Ln, Missoula, MT 59808, 721-1423.
- Curbside pickup of boulevard tree debris continues. Submit a request for pickup at [www.missoulaparks.org](http://www.missoulaparks.org) or phone 552-6253. Pickup is for boulevard tree debris only; we will not accept debris from private trees, yard waste or garbage.

- The City has received reports of tree debris blocking alleys. The debris cannot be removed until downed utility lines are cleared. The Urban Forestry Division is coordinating with Northwestern Energy to help clear alleyways as soon as possible. If *any* storm debris is located near utility lines, stay away and call Northwestern Energy at 1-888-467-2669.
- Report trees with hanging or hazardous limbs, or property damage from boulevard trees, to Parks and Recreation at 552-6253.
- Imagine Missoula, a local volunteer organization, is available to assist elderly citizens or those with limited mobility with tree debris removal. Please phone 546-4697 for more information.

## **Trees on private property:**

### **NEW INFORMATION AS OF 8-13-15**

- Parks and Recreation has received reports of unlicensed contractors and/or scammers who are offering storm clean-up and repairs at discounted prices. According to the US Federal Trade Commission, these individuals may demand payment up-front for work they never do, quote outrageous prices, or simply lack the skills, licenses, and insurance to legally do the work. Learn more about protecting yourself after a weather emergency at the [U.S. Federal Trade Commission website](http://U.S. Federal Trade Commission website), ftc.gov. If you feel you have been the victim of a scam, please call the Missoula Police Department at 552-6300.

### **PREVIOUSLY DISTRIBUTED INFORMATION**

- Debris from trees on private property is the responsibility of the property owner.
- Imagine Missoula, a local volunteer organization, is available to assist elderly citizens or those with limited mobility with tree debris removal. Please phone 546-4697 or more information.
- Eko-Compost is accepting tree debris from the general public at no charge: 1125 Clark Fork Ln, Missoula, MT 59808, 721-1423.
- For a list of certified arborists to assist in private tree debris removal, visit [www.missoulaparks.org](http://www.missoulaparks.org).
- Additional volunteers are needed to assist property owners with private tree debris. Please email [parksrec@ci.missoula.mt.us](mailto:parksrec@ci.missoula.mt.us) if you can help.

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