



Bakersfield Composite Squadron #121

60-Second Safety Advisor #53

High Winds – A Real Hazard

Wind can cause significant damage to property and significant risk to personal safety. There are some things you can do to mitigate that risk. Securing lawn furniture, trash cans and other outside items can help minimize damage to your home and neighborhood. With the possibility that any storm might cause a localized power outage, you should locate and test the flashlights in your home prior to the lights going out. Candles are not an appropriate source of emergency lighting. If you should encounter downed wires, always assume them to be energized and potentially lethal, and use extreme caution as the wires might have electrically charged puddles of water, chain link fences or other conductive sources.

While driving, you must use extreme caution when approaching any non-functioning traffic signal. Whether driving on a main thoroughfare or a side street, all darkened traffic signals should be treated as a four-way stop. And finally, be careful for toppling trees, wind-blown branches, debris or high profile vehicles being buffeted by the winds. Your best option is to avoid driving in high winds if possible, but if you must drive during high winds, keep your situational awareness high and expect the unexpected!

