

Red Flag Parking Restrictions – Questions & Answers

m	Question	Answer
1	What is a Red Flag Day?	<p>Red Flag Days are declared by the National Weather Service when:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Relative Humidity 15 percent or less with either sustained winds of 25 mph or greater or frequent gusts of 35 mph or greater for a duration of 6 hours or more; 2) Relative Humidity 10 percent or less for a duration of 10 hours or more; or, 3) Widespread and/or significant dry lightning. <p>The Fire Chief may also declare a Red Flag Day in response to an extreme hazard.</p>
2	How often will there be Red Flag Days?	<p>The National Weather Service recently separated the San Gabriel Valley, including Pasadena, from the San Fernando and Santa Clarita areas, so historic data is not readily available. However, the Fire Department believes that no more than 30-45 days of parking will be restricted, as a worse case. More realistically, we believe 10-15 days to be a reasonable estimate of average conditions.</p>
3	How will I know if we are in a Red Flag Condition?	<p>There are a number of ways to know:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Residents can sign up for personalized notifications through the Pasadena Local Emergency Alert System (PLEAS); 2) Signs posted at major intersections leading into areas with restricted parking will indicate Red Flag restrictions; 3) Media reports generally report Red Flag conditions; and, 4) Information posted on the City of Pasadena’s website, http://www.cityofpasadena.net.
4	Our neighbors have traditionally pulled our cars out of the driveway and into the street on Red Flag days to allow the Fire Department easy access to the brush areas to the rear and our pools. Leaving cars in our driveways will block fire department access	<p>The Fire Department appreciates your efforts to ease our access. However, trading one blockage that potentially only affects one house for a blockage that potentially affects many is problematic. To continue your fire safety efforts, the Fire Department would request that you move your vehicles to the nearest unrestricted parking in the area.</p>
5	What are the stop/start hours of Red Flag restrictions?	<p>The stop and start of the Red Flag conditions will be determined by the weather as predicted by the National Weather Service. Red Flag notices will generally be sent as “until further notice” with a cancellation notice in the future. In the event an end time can be announced with the Red Flag notice, it may be subject to extensions as needed.</p>

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6	In many neighborhoods, people have overnight parking permits for street parking. Where would they park during a Red Flag restriction period? Most of these permits do not allow parking anywhere else.	The Department of Transportation states that overnight parking permits are <i>not</i> restricted to parking only in front of one address. Overnight parking permits would be valid for parking in any nearby unrestricted, legal parking space.
6	Many streets in these areas change in width, so some blocks would be affected and others not. Many streets extend from areas in the high fire hazard zone to non-threatened areas.	Those blocks that do not meet the requirements for Red Flag parking restrictions will not be posted.
7	How would plumbers, gardeners and repair vehicles be dealt with?	Commercial delivery vehicles parked in front of the receiving property for no more than 15 minutes would be exempt, as well as City vehicles during the course of their duties. Landscape maintenance, home maintenance, plumbing, or similar contractors are exempt provided such contractor maintains the proper City business license, the vehicle is parked at the address receiving maintenance for no more than 60 minutes and only while the driver is in attendance. All others would be subject to the restrictions.
9	How would vacations be dealt with?	No matter how reasonable the justification may seem, creating a potential blockage in the street on days of extreme hazard is an unacceptable hazard for the entire community. Residents would be encouraged to find alternative unrestricted parking if they are vacationing during periods expected to be of high risk. Also, neighbors could cooperate to move vehicles, as well.
10	We have no off-street parking.	No matter how reasonable the justification may seem, creating a potential blockage in the street on days of extreme hazard is an unacceptable hazard for the entire community. Frequently, this situation is caused by “converted” garages. As a long-term alternative to the inconvenience of restricted parking, homeowners could evaluate re-converting their garage back to its intended use.
11	What about residents who have restricted mobility and no off-street parking?	No matter how reasonable the justification may seem, creating a potential blockage in the street on days of extreme hazard is an unacceptable hazard for the entire community. A neighbor or caregiver could move the vehicle when the resident arrives home.

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12	What would the enforcement protocol be?	Red Flag restricted parking is treated in a manner equivalent to a Fire Lane. In order to allow residents to become comfortable with the new requirement, the City is using a phased approach, as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="949 250 1965 321">1. The first 3 Red Flag notifications or first 10 days, whichever is less, vehicles parked in restricted areas would receive warnings;<li data-bbox="949 326 1965 397">2. The next 3 Red Flag notifications or 10 days, whichever is less, vehicles parked in restricted areas would receive tickets; and, Thereafter vehicles parked in restricted areas would be ticketed and towed.
13	Will these restrictions include Pasadena Glen?	No, Pasadena Glen is not within the City of Pasadena.
14	What happens when a Red Flag coincides with a Rose Bowl event?	Generally, there should be no impact. Pasadena Police discourages public parking in bordering neighborhoods. Those that do park are subject to all parking restrictions and would be subject to Red Flag restrictions as well. For residents who may plan parties during Rose Bowl events, the resident would need to make their parking plans accordingly.