



**LANSING FIRE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION**

120 E. Shiawassee St.
Lansing, Michigan 48933
(517) 483-4200
FAX (517) 483-7641



Virg Bernero, Mayor
Tom Cochran, Fire Chief

NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:
Date: June 10, 2008
Time: 1100 hrs**

**Contact: Duty PIO
Pager #: (517) 228-5572**

Urgent Safety Bulletin

We continue to get reports and respond to falling trees and limbs. Forestry officials advise that wet soil conditions could add to the likelihood of an unstable tree still being a fall hazard. Citizens are reminded to stay aware that large trees or broken limbs may still fall. Trees that are on the ground are also unstable. A shifting tree can roll. Children playing on those trees may be at risk of several hundred pounds of weight shifting. An event this morning dropped power lines in an area that had power before the outage. We expect this is not the only time this will happen this week.

Electrical wires may be hidden from view and still may pose an electrocution hazard. Debris could be energized from these hidden wires.

Early on the city released information on how to prepare debris for removal. Some of the reasons may not have been obvious to the individuals with downed limbs. A large amount of the city was affected by downed limbs. To remove limbs that don't follow the guidelines would take an unacceptable time frame to pick up. The large limb piles are also posing sight hazards (similar to tall snow banks) and blocking sidewalks. Following the less than 4 foot length rule can reduce this as well as bundling limbs smaller than two inches and stacking limbs wider than 2 inches. Some homes have large amounts of debris. Keeping stacks less than 2 feet tall will allow view as well as not stack wood near intersections. Also do not block streets, sidewalks or driveways.

A list of safety and contact information is available on the City of Lansing home page at <http://www.cityoflansingmi.com/> and clicking on the STORM INFORMATION link.

###