



Stormy weather brings flooding, outages, accidents

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Storms affect events in the East Bay

In the East Bay the rain could pick up Friday night, but that didn't stop the traditional tree lighting ceremony at Oakland's Jack London Square.

While the storms have put some East Bay celebrations on hold, others will happen rain or shine.

The intersection of 3rd and Washington streets is a virtual lake. Rain water is so high a pond blocks parking spaces and has poured into one lane of traffic.

The Oakland Zoo's water fowl love the weather; but the event planners and organizers, not so much. The high winds and heavy rain took down trees, caused heavy runoff, and pushed the Zoo Lights grand opening tentatively to Monday.

"You know, as soon as that sun breaks out, I want them all to come back out," said Dr. Joel Parrott with the Oakland Zoo. "After being cooped up so much, that's a good time to go to the Oakland Zoo."

Also wishing for sun are those planning Oakland's 13th annual holiday parade. More than 2,000 volunteers help to pull off the seasonal spectacle. Santa, music, and tons of kids' goodies make it a holiday favorite.

Event organizer Patricia Brooks says that rain or shine, the show will go on, "Oh yes, it's gonna happen. Don't think for one minute it's not gonna happen. It's happened for 13 years and will happen forever."

The parade will run along Broadway and 20th streets. It starts at 2 p.m. Sunday.

<http://abclocal.go.com/kgostory?section=weather&id=8903561>