

Post-Hurricane Sandy Clean Up Efforts in Atlantic City: A True Team Effort



(Above) Environmental Services employees collect debris from city streets.

Hurricane Sandy's path of devastation ultimately brought out the best in many throughout the Southern New Jersey region and right here in Atlantic City. Immediately following the storm's passing, the CRDA's Special Improvement Division was out on the city's streets beginning the long and arduous task of cleaning up what Sandy had left behind.

While they weren't expected to, many SID landscaping, environmental services and ambassador employees voluntarily reported for duty on the Wednesday following the storm. Even though vehicular access to Atlantic City was either limited or inaccessible, 40 SID staff members walked into the city in order to assist in the clean up efforts.

The Tourism District was divided into eight sectors so each team could access any damage. Crews worked 12 hour days on Wednesday and Thursday, and an 8-hour day on Friday. By Friday, 72 staff members were on duty and helped ensure that all streets, boulevards and sidewalks were clear of debris. Ambassadors provided light security and assisted residents with FEMA information and responded to emergencies.



(Above) Landscaping employees collect debris, including this tree, from throughout the city.



(Above) Ambassadors inspect under the Boardwalk for any homeless individuals following the storm.



(Above) CRDA SID Director Don Guardian (left) lent a helping hand during the clean up.

Atlantic City's Holiday Parade Triumphantly Returns to Atlantic Avenue

The Atlantic City Holiday Parade returned to Atlantic Avenue on Saturday, December 1st as hundreds of spectators lined the crowded city sidewalks in order to catch a glimpse of the pageantry, and of course Santa Claus. Nearly 60 units, including 13 floats, several musical bands and local organizations and dignitaries, took part in this year's parade, which concluded at Tanger Outlets The Walk and featured free hot chocolate and some one-on-one time with Santa Claus himself.



(Above) Parade spectators along Michigan Avenue get a warm and friendly greeting from a stilt walker near Tanger Outlets The Walk.



(Above) Members, friends and family from Main Street Atlantic City were all smiles aboard their float.



(Above) A member of the Atlantic City High School Marching Vikings proceeds down Atlantic Avenue.

Atlantic City is All Aglow for the Holiday Season



(Above) This 35-foot Christmas tree greets visitors to Atlantic City at the foot of the Atlantic City Expressway.



(Above) A 25-foot wide Season's Greetings sign stands out brilliantly at Center City Park.



(Above) Trees in Center City Park are all decked out in small white lights for the holiday season.

Thanks to \$595,000 in funding from the CRDA, Atlantic City's streets, parks and boulevards are shining spectacularly bright this holiday season.

(Right) The Christmas tree in Center City Park is also colorfully decorated with bright lights and topped off with a shining star.



Important Holiday Shopping & Home Safety Tips for You & Your Family

Home safety tips during the holiday season for you and your family:

- 1: Talk to your kids about safety. Teach them not to touch electric lights, cords or decorations.
- 2: Check the integrity of your ladder for any signs of wear and tear before you hang decorations.
- 3: Examine your lights for wear – kids can help point out unlit bulbs, but they shouldn't handle the strands.
- 4: If you have a tree, set a family tree-watering plan and let your kids participate if they're old enough.
- 5: Check your holiday decorations to make sure that they are not a choking hazard.
- 6: Turn pot handles inward when cooking to avoid being grabbed by kids.
- 7: Review your fire escape plan. Did your holiday decorations block any essential exits?
- 8: Learn what a UL mark looks like and teach your kids to find them on products.
- 9: If you are using candles and matches during the holidays, check to be sure they are stored in a locked cabinet or well away from children.
- 10: Test your smoke alarm. Need new batteries? Replace them.
- 11: Recycle wrapping paper into cards or tags and use again.

Safe tips for you and your family during the holiday season:

- 1: Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- 2: Dress casually and comfortably.
- 3: Avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- 4: Do not carry a purse or wallet, if possible.
- 5: Always carry your driver's license or identification along with necessary cash, checks and/or a credit card you expect to use.
- 6: Even though you are rushed and thinking about a thousand things, stay alert to your surroundings.
- 7: Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- 8: Pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible and keep cash in your front pocket.
- 9: Notify the credit card issuer immediately if your credit card is lost, stolen or misused.
- 10: Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- 11: Be extra careful if you do carry a wallet or purse.
- 12: Beware of strangers approaching you in the parking lot or in a store for any reason.