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MAYOR EMANUEL, CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF STREETS AND SANITATION ANNOUNCE CITY HAS RESPONDED TO MORE THAN 1,700 TREE EMERGENCIES CAUSED BY WEEKEND STORMS

Forestry Crews To Now Redirect Efforts To Pick Up Storm Debris Along Parkways

Mayor Rahm Emanuel today announced the Chicago Department of Streets and Sanitation forestry crews have successfully responded to the more than 1,700 "tree emergencies," or downed trees and branches, that resulted from the severe storm that hit the area on Sunday, August 2, 2015. Crews are now redirecting efforts to address remaining storm debris on parkways, and are expected to work into early next week to complete the clean-up effort.

"DSS crews have been out in full force, working tirelessly since Sunday afternoon to keep our residents safe, our streets and sidewalks clear and our city on the move," said Mayor Rahm Emanuel. "I want to thank the crews for their efforts following last weekend's powerful storm, and as residents for their patience and support as we complete our clean-up efforts along the parkways."

As Sunday's storm moved across Chicago, strong winds, rain and hail battered the north side of the city, uprooting trees and downing power lines and branches. DSS forestry crews were dispatched immediately following the storm, focusing first on clearing streets for emergency personnel, then clearing trees and branches from private property.

The clean-up effort is supported by more than 150 crew members utilizing 18 semi-trucks and 40 pieces of heavy equipment.

Residents can report tree emergencies or storm debris by calling 311. For more information on the City of Chicago Department of Streets and Sanitation Bureau of Forestry, visit www.cityofchicago.org/dss.

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