

# Rain Strands 100 Families

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hoped to resume service Sunday.

Local weathermen, however, predicted more rain through the weekend as another Pacific Northwest storm approached Southern California.

Jim Steiner, forecaster for the National Weather Service here, said the season that began last July is the county's rainiest since 1966, and the seventh rainiest since 1850.

The flooding has kept scores of North County workers from getting to their jobs, and hundreds of children from getting to school.

Residents of the rural Fallbrook area say trees and crops have been uprooted and septic tanks rendered unusable by clogged leach lines.

Jan Metzgar, whose son Brad was rescued by helicopter Wednesday after his truck overturned in the swamped De Luz crossing of the Santa Margarita River, said residents are unable to cook unless they have fireplaces or propane gas facilities.

But Ross Daily, a member of the county Planning Commission who lives in Fallbrook, said the community is bearing up under the hardships.

"If you choose to live here, you must expect situations like this," Daily said.

A spokesman for San Diego Gas & Electric Co. said the utility firm expected to have power fully restored by early this morning.

Most telephones in Fallbrook were working, according to Pacific Telephone Co.

Emergency officials blamed deposits of silt in underground conduits for the flooding of De Luz crossing.

The flooding of several thoroughfares in Mission Valley turned much of the commercial district into a ghost town, idling proprietors in their doorways.

"Who wants to buy spring skirts or bathing suits when it's raining — unless they want to swim home?" asked Marty Monahan, assistant manager of The Place women's store.

In the East County, underground saturation was giving several residents of Santee's Carlton Hills Boulevard cause for concern.

"Homes there could just buckle and fall apart," said a spokesman for the Padre Dam Water District.

The inclement weather also was causing problems for the tourist industry. Jerry Goodrum, spokesman for the Convention & Visitors Bureau, said attendance at the San Diego Zoo and Sea World has "suffered tremendously" as a result of this winter's rains.

"If you're in the business of selling sunshine and you can't deliver," Goodrum said, "you have to expect the loss of business."