

Storm Update



Dear Residents,

On my second day here at City Hall, we've spent the day preparing for a major winter storm. The forecast heading our way is for more than a foot of snow and high winds, followed by a brutal arctic air mass that is expected to push temperatures below zero on Friday and Saturday.

Our Emergency Operations Center will open tomorrow morning at 8:00 and crews are ready for snow, downed trees, and the potential need for warming stations.

Any snow-related issues may be reported to the City by utilizing the online 311 reporting system at <http://www.newtonma.gov/gov/311.asp> or by using the 311 app. And as always, call 911 in case of emergency.

Other important information:

- To insure everyone's safety a Snow Emergency will go into effect beginning at 8 a.m. tomorrow, Thursday, January 4. All cars parked on the streets or in the municipal parking lots must be moved by this time or are subject to towing.
- We strongly encourage all drivers to stay off the roads beginning tomorrow morning because of the potential for visibility problems with the snow and wind.
- The combination of heavy snow and high winds could create the potential for tree damage and scattered to widespread power outages. Any power outages should be reported directly to Eversource at 800-592-2000.
- The forecast right now is for heavy, wet snow initially, followed by a severe drop in temperature and more snow. This will create icy mounds of snow. In addition, because of the high winds and frigid temperatures continuing into Saturday, it will be difficult for both our residents and our crews to clear the streets and sidewalks. It may take our crews a number of days to get down to clear pavement.
- City Hall, the Newton Free Library, Senior Center, all municipal buildings, and schools will be closed on Thursday.
- The storm is also causing a delay in trash collection. An updated schedule is posted on the city's website at www.newtonma.gov.
- The website will also provide up-to-date information on the timing of the snow emergency, including when it will be lifted, and any additional information about the storm.
- We are prepared for the potential need to provide a warm place for people to reunite with families and or friends.

Lastly, and most importantly, please reach out to any neighbors who may need assistance. We are all here for each other. Stay warm and stay safe.

Sincerely,

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor of Newton

