Board of County Commissioners

Dennis E. Frazier, President Stephen A. Wantz, Vice President C. Richard Weaver, Secretary Doug Howard Richard S. Rothschild



Carroll County Government

225 North Center Street Westminster, Maryland 21157 410-386-2043; 1-888-302-8978 fax 410-386-2485 MD Relay 711/800-735-2258

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Christine Kay 410-386-3600

Cold Weather Shelter to Open Saturday Night

Westminster, April 6, 2018 – The National Weather Service is forecasting unseasonably cold temperatures in Carroll County on Saturday, April 7 and into the morning of Sunday, April 8. Due to this anticipated cold weather, <u>Human Services Programs (HSP) of Carroll County, Inc.</u> will open the Cold Weather Shelter at 127 Stoner Avenue, Westminster overnight from 7:00 PM on Saturday, April 7 until 7:00 AM on Sunday, April 8.

On Our Own provides a community center at 265 East Main Street, Westminster, which will be operating on an extended schedule on Saturday, opening at 7:00 a.m. and closing at 6:00 p.m. More information about On Our Own can be obtained by calling 410-751-6600.



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The Carroll County Department of Public Safety - Emergency Management encourages people to follow these safety tips when temperatures are extremely cold:

- Minimize outside activities, particularly among the elderly and very young. Check on family members and neighbors who may be more vulnerable to the cold.
- Pets are also sensitive to the cold; remember to consider your pets' needs when planning outside activities.
- Dress in several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight clothing rather than a single layer of heavy clothing. Wear a hat and mittens/gloves to stay warmer.
- Be aware of frostbite. If a part of the body loses feeling and the skin feels waxy or looks white or grey, warm gently and seek medical help.
- Watch out for hypothermia. Shivering, memory loss, confusion, slurred speech, and drowsiness are all warning signs. Seek medical attention for signs of hypothermia.
- Use caution when heating your home. For tips on how to safely use space heaters, fireplaces, woodstoves and refer to the U.S. Fire Administration's home heating safety handout.
- If using a space heater, be aware of the possibility of carbon monoxide poisoning. For more information on carbon monoxide poisoning visit the <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website</u>.

For more information on local cold weather resources, including energy assistance, visit the <u>Carroll County Health</u> <u>Department cold weather webpage</u> or check out the <u>Carroll County Health Department on Facebook</u>.



CARROLL COUNTY

The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978 or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.