

Board of County Commissioners

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CARROLL COUNTY PREPARES FOR WINTER STORM BEGINNING MONDAY EVENING

Westminster, Sunday, March 12, 2017 — A winter storm system is heading toward Carroll County and will likely bring wet, heavy snow, and cold temperatures to the area. The storm is expected to begin Monday evening, with the heaviest precipitation occurring between 10:00 P.M. Monday and 8:00 A.M. Tuesday. The National Weather Service has issued a Winter Storm Warning for Carroll County beginning Monday at 7:00 P.M. and going through Tuesday at 2:00 P.M.

Carroll County residents should make preparations now and are urged to stay off the roads during the height of the storm.

“Emergency Management is working closely with the State and National Weather Service to stay apprised of the situation,” said Richard Weaver, President, Board of County Commissioners.

In addition to staying off the roads and monitoring the weather and power outages, residents should take the following actions:

- Keep devices charged so you will have a way to follow weather forecasts and local emergency information and be able to contact family and friends.
- Be cautious shoveling snow or ice to avoid overexertion. Take frequent breaks and keep hydrated. If snow is accumulating on your rooftop, consider removing snow if it is safe to do so.
- If you must travel, make sure to have car chargers, kitty litter or sand for traction, and extra drinks and snacks in case you get stuck in traffic. Let friends or family know of your travel route and expected arrival time.
- Check on friends, neighbors, and relatives, especially the elderly or vulnerable residents who may have trouble staying warm or maneuvering on icy surfaces.
- Know who to contact in the case of a power outage.

The Carroll County Department of Public Works – Roads Operations answers the most frequently asked questions and offers other information below.

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.

When will my roadway be plowed?

The County maintains approximately 1,000 miles of roadway with each roadway assigned to a snow route. Once the snow begins the Bureau of Roads Operations will work through the snow routes as the specific routes identify the order of the roadways to open up the roadways as quickly as possible and to maximize efficiency. In many instances we will have to return to complete final cleanup of each roadway. Unfortunately due to many different factors such as high snow amounts, drifting and blowing, abandoned vehicles, mechanical break downs, assisting with fire/emergency calls, etc. we are unable to identify specifically when we will be able to clear a specific roadway. Should we experience exceptional depth of snow accumulation with this storm, large construction equipment may be utilized to move the snow in addition to our plow trucks and equipment. The use of this construction equipment requires additional time.

What if I have an emergency?

During the entire storm we will respond with our Fire/EMS and Law Enforcement partners to assist them with emergency response calls.

You pushed the snow in my driveway.

Unfortunately as we clear the snow from the roads, some of this snow will be pushed into the end of the driveway. We again ask for your understanding and patience as we work to clear the roadways.

Other important notes:

If you must go out please remember to drive safely as some plowed roads may be narrow and have low visibility with snow piled on either side, especially at intersections. Watch out for folks walking along the roadways and the children enjoying the snow.

We thank all the residents for their patience and understanding as we work our way through this event.

We remind citizens not to clear their driveways into the roadways.

If your mailbox is damaged during the plowing operations, please call 410-386-6717 to request repair/replacement of the mailbox or the mailbox replacement allowance from Roads Operations.

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