

State of New Hampshire Department of Safety Robert L. Quinn, Commissioner Richard C. Bailey, Jr., Assistant Commissioner

Homeland Security and Emergency Management Jennifer L. Harper, Director



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, October 29, 2020 Paul D. Raymond, Jr. Strategic Communications Administrator NH Department of Safety C: (603) 892-5804

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PRESS RELEASE

NWS FORECAST: HEAVY, WET SNOW INCOMING

First snowfall of the season for much of New Hampshire

Concord, NH – New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the NH Department of Transportation are reminding residents and visitors to be prepared as much of the state will receive the first accumulating snowfall overnight.

The National Weather Service issued a Winter Weather Advisory for parts of Hillsborough and Cheshire counties from 11:00 PM tonight until 10:00 AM tomorrow morning. While snowfall amounts will be light, the first snowfall of the season often carries greater than expected impacts. Use extra caution when traveling on snow-covered surfaces, especially during the Friday morning commute.

Rain will move in from the south this afternoon and evening, and change over to wet snow tonight before ending tomorrow morning. A slushy one to two inches are expected across the southern two-thirds of the state, with higher amounts possible in some higher elevations.

"The first storm of the season requires us to brush off our winter driving skills" said Commissioner Victoria Sheehan of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation. "NHDOT crews are ready to respond to this event. You are safer at home but if you must travel, please drive slowly, leaving ample space between yourself and others. And as always – don't crowd the plows as they work to clear the roadways for safe travel."

"Be prepared," said New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director Jennifer Harper. "Take time now to prepare your family. Being prepared means knowing what to do and having the things you need to stay safe. Learn more about preparedness at ReadyNH.gov."

Due to the heavy, wet snow, power outages and tree damage is possible. If you lose power, be sure to report the outage to your utility provider every 24-hours until your service is restored.

- Eversource1-800-662-7764
- Liberty.....1-855-349-9455
- NH Electric Co-Op1-800-343-6432
- Unitil.....1-888-301-7700

If you see downed power lines, stay away and call 9-1-1.

Director Harper and Commissioner Sheehan provide these additional reminders:

- Visit ReadyNH.gov to learn more about keeping safe during emergencies.
- Monitor National Weather Service radio or broadcast weather reports to keep track of changing conditions.
- Consider working or schooling from home so that crews can clear the roads.
- Slow down and move over for emergency vehicles.
- Do not crowd the plows or emergency crews.
- Clear all snow and ice off your car, including your roof, around lights, and license plates before traveling.
- Bridges, overpasses, and exposed road areas are the most prone to icy conditions.
- Visit ReadyNH.gov to learn more preparedness tips to help you and your family stay safe.

The core steps toward preparedness are:

- 1. Stay informed by signing up for NH Alerts.
- 2. Make an emergency kit.
- 3. Have a family emergency plan
- 4. Get involved in your community.

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