



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

Friday, December 04, 2020

Paul D. Raymond, Jr.

Strategic Communications Administrator

NH Department of Safety

C: (603) 892-5804

Eileen Meaney

Chief Communications Officer

NH Department of Transportation

O: (603) 271-6495

PRESS RELEASE

FIRST SIGNIFICANT WINTER STORM OF THE SEASON

Heavy wet snow will cause difficult travel and potential for power outages.

Concord, NH – The National Weather Service in Gray, Maine issued a Winter Weather Watch for the entire state from Saturday morning through Sunday afternoon. Heavy wet snow looks to be the biggest hazard causing very difficult travel conditions and the potential for power outages. Confidence is high that heavy wet snow will affect our region. This will be a predominantly rain/snow event with little to no icing expected. Strong winds are possible from the north/northeast increasing the possibility of power outages, especially along the coast.

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 significant snowstorm of the season.

“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.”

A Winter Storm Watch is issued when significant and hazardous winter weather is possible in the next 48 hours. Remember, a watch means the event is possible and is an opportunity to *get prepared*. As the event becomes imminent, a watch will normally be upgraded to either a warning or an advisory. A Winter Storm Warning means *take action*; confidence in the winter storm’s impact is high and the storm is imminent or ongoing.

NHDOT Commissioner Victoria Sheehan encourages motorists to consider traveling only if essential during snowstorms, “if you must travel, please slow down and drive for road conditions, allowing plenty of time to reach your destination”.

Due to the heavy, wet snow, power outages and tree damage is possible. If you see downed power line, stay away and call 9-1-1.

If you lose power, be sure to report the outage to your utility provider every 24-hours until your service is restored.

Office: 110 Smokey Bear Boulevard, Concord, N.H.
Mailing Address: 33 Hazen Drive, Concord, N.H. 03305
603-271-2231, 1-800-852-3792, Fax 603-223-3609
State of New Hampshire TDD Access: Relay 1-800-735-2964

- Eversource 1-800-662-7764
- Liberty..... 1-855-349-9455
- NH Electric Co-Op 1-800-343-6432
- Unital 1-888-301-7700

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.

###