



State of New Hampshire Department of Safety
Robert L. Quinn, Commissioner
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Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Jennifer L. Harper, Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

NWS ISSUES FLOOD WATCH AND HIGH WIND WATCH FOR PARTS OF NH

Concord, N.H. – The National Weather Service in Gray, Maine issued a Flood Watch and a High Wind Watch for parts of New Hampshire.

“A watch means be prepared,” said NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director Jennifer Harper. “Strong winds and heavy rain can cause dangerous and unexpected problems. It is best to have a plan so you and your family know what to do when an emergency happens. So, take time now to prepare your family in case you need to take action due to the storm.”

FLOOD WATCH:

A Flood Watch is in effect for parts of all ten counties from late Thursday through Saturday morning. Moderate to heavy rainfall of up to 2 to 3 inches is expected late Thursday night and Friday over the forecast area with highest totals expected over the White Mountains. In addition, unseasonably warm and humid conditions, plus the rainfall, will contribute to significant and widespread snow melt which may release an additional 1 to 2 inches of water.

Strong rises are expected on streams and rivers across the state. A few rivers are forecast to reach and/or exceed bankfull. Smaller stream systems are expected to respond and crest Friday while main stems may not crest until late Saturday. In addition, remnant snow banks are likely to block drains, which may lead to urban flooding.

HIGH WIND WATCH:

A High Wind Watch is in effect for parts of Strafford, Hillsborough and Rockingham counties from Thursday evening through Friday evening. Southeast winds 15 to 25 mph with gusts up to 55 mph are possible.

Damaging winds could blow down trees and power lines. Widespread power outages are possible and travel could be difficult, especially for high-profile vehicles like box trucks. Fasten loose objects or shelter objects in a safe location prior to the onset of winds.

BE PREPARED:

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

A watch means conditions are favorable for the forecast to occur, so residents and visitors are urged to be prepared. Monitor the latest forecasts and warnings for updates on the situation. If a warning is issued, it means take action.

Customers are reminded to report outages to their utility provider at least once daily until power is restored:

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

Director Harper provides these additional reminders:

- Signup for NH Alerts, the State’s emergency notification system to receive location-specific safety information. Also, download the app.
- Monitor National Weather Service radio or broadcast weather reports to keep track of changing conditions.
- Slow down and move over for emergency vehicles.
- Secure outdoor objects.
- If you encounter a downed power line, stay away and call 9-1-1.
- 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.

For emergencies, call 9-1-1. If you cannot call, you can text 9-1-1 for emergencies in New Hampshire.

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