



State of New Hampshire Department of Safety

John J. Barthelmes, Commissioner

Robert L. Quinn, Assistant Commissioner

Richard C. Bailey, Jr., Assistant Commissioner

Homeland Security and Emergency Management

Perry E. Plummer, Director

Jennifer L. Harper, Assistant Director



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, March 14, 2017

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HEAVY SNOW AND WINDS CAUSE DANGEROUS DRIVING CONDITIONS

New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management is coordinating the State's response to a significant storm that is expected to bring a foot to two feet of snow today through Wednesday with snow fall rates of up to 4 inches per hour and strong winds. Drivers should expect treacherous driving conditions and avoid travel when possible.

"We're monitoring the storm closely and will continue to coordinate the State's response to this storm throughout the night," Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Perry Plummer said. "Conference calls were held Monday with federal, state and local partners to ensure everyone had the latest information and all preparations had been made regarding the storm."

HSEM will open the Emergency Operations Center at 4 p.m. today, Plummer said.

"Our biggest concern right now is the treacherous driving conditions," Plummer said. "The rapid rate of snow fall coupled with strong wind gusts will create quickly changing conditions with low to no visibility. We're asking everyone to avoid travel when possible."

Plummer made the following safety recommendations:

- Visit ReadyNH.gov and follow NH HSEM on *Twitter* and *Facebook* for the latest safety information regarding the storm and to learn more about keeping safe during emergencies.
- Signup for NH Alerts, the State's emergency notification system at ReadyNH.gov, to receive the latest weather warnings and safety information for your area.
- Monitor the weather using a National Weather Service radio or through broadcast weather reports to keep track of changing conditions.
- Avoid unnecessary travel.
 - If travel is necessary, drive slowly, allow extra space between vehicles and around plows and road crews, keep your gas tank at least half-full, tell someone when you are leaving and where you are going, keep a shovel in your car, and have enough food, water and blankets for each person in your car should you be delayed for an extended time.
- Report power outages to your local utility.
 - Unitil: 866-900-4115
 - Eversource: 800-662-7764



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- NH Electric: Co-op 800-343-6432

Follow NH HSEM on *Twitter* at https://twitter.com/NH_HSEM and *Facebook* at <https://www.facebook.com/NH.HSEM>. Also, sign up for *NH Alerts* to receive emergency information via your mobile and landline phones, including severe weather alerts from the National Weather Service and emergency information from NH HSEM. To learn more about *NH Alerts* and other preparedness tools, visit www.readynh.gov or call 271-2231.

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