



## OFFICE OF MAYOR ANDY SCHOR

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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# **Snow Emergency Travel Restrictions Back in Effect Wednesday, City of Lansing Closed Due to Extreme Winter Weather**

*Travel restrictions and closures to beginning Wednesday, January 30, 2019*

**(LANSING)** – Due to the predicted extreme weather, Mayor Andy Schor has reinstated travel restrictions for the City of Lansing starting at 12:01 a.m., on Wednesday, January 30, 2019. City Hall, 54-A District Court and city facilities will be closed on Wednesday, January 30, 2019. All City of Lansing sponsored events or meetings are also cancelled on Wednesday.

“City of Lansing facilities will be closed on Wednesday to minimize the amount of time that our employees spend outside,” said Mayor Schor. “Safety is our priority. We must consider the fact that frostbite could occur in as little as 10 minutes with temperatures dropping to -6 degrees with a wind chill as low as -35 degrees. The closure will help protect our city employees, as well as residents who may otherwise visit our facilities, from spending time in the bitter cold.”

The National Weather Service (NWS) is predicting blowing and drifting snow, as well as wind chills between -20 to -35 degrees. This means that frostbite could occur to exposed skin in at little as 10 minutes. Frostbite causes a loss of feeling and color. It most often affects the nose, ears, cheeks, chin, fingers, or toes. Frostbite can permanently damage the body, and severe cases can lead to amputation. The NWS also predicts that the City of Lansing receive an additional 4 to 5 inches of snow between Tuesday evening and Wednesday. City officials urge residents to spend minimal time outside and be prepared if you must go outside.

“We expect the roads to be icy and hazardous with zero visibility due to drifting snow and high winds,” said Mayor Andy Schor. “While we will continue to plow the snow, temperatures will be too cold for salt to work effectively. To ensure the safety of our residents and visitors, we are reinstating travel restrictions on our roads.”

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During the reinstated Snow Emergency, non-essential commercial, private and public travel on city roads, as well as on-street parking is prohibited to ensure safety and efficiency during snow clearing operations beginning Wednesday, January 30, 2019. The emergency vehicle access plan to support police, fire and EMS personnel, as well as the community-wide critical communications plan have both been implanted. All local resources are being utilized to their fullest extent.

As a reminder, Capital Area Recycling and Trash (CART) collections will be delayed by one day starting Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. Meaning Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, collections will be pushed to Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, collections will be pushed to Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Additionally, the Lansing Public Service Department is delaying enforcement of the sidewalk snow/ice clearing ordinance until wind chill returns above zero degrees later this week. Residents should exercise caution by limiting their outdoor exposure and dress appropriately for the conditions.

Lansing's Office of Emergency Management will continue to actively monitor the weather.

### **Important Safety Tips**

#### **If you must go outside:**

- Be aware of the subzero temperatures and wind chill, avoid staying outside for extended period and take frequent breaks from the cold.
- Wear layers of clothing to stay warm, along with a hat, mittens and waterproof, insulated boots to keep feet warm and dry. Avoid unnecessary exposure of any part of the body to the cold.
- Drink plenty of warm fluids or warm water, avoid excess of caffeine and alcohol.
- Check on your neighbors, especially elderly people living alone, people with disabilities and children.

#### **When you are at home:**

- Check on your neighbors, especially elderly people living alone, people with disabilities and children.
- Bring family pets indoors and ensure that they aren't outside for extended periods of time.
- Prevent frozen pipes by opening cabinet doors to let warm air circulate around water pipes. Let the cold-water drip from the faucet served by exposed pipes.
- Do not use a stove or oven to heat the home. Keep a glass or metal fire screen around the fireplace and never leave a fireplace fire unattended.
- If using a space heater, place it on a level, hard, nonflammable surface. Turn the space heater off when leaving the room or going to sleep. Keep children and pets away from the space heater and do not use it to dry wet clothing.

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**If you must travel:**

- Carry an emergency preparedness kit in the trunk.
- Keep the car's gas tank full for emergency use and to keep the fuel line from freezing.
- Do not follow other vehicles too closely. Sudden stops are difficult on snowy roadways.
- Do not crowd plows or emergency vehicles.
- Do not use cruise control when driving in winter weather.
- Use caution and leave ample space between your car and the car in front of you.

The Lansing Public Service Department continues to work around-the-clock to clear streets.

Residents can stay updated on the status of plowing operations by visiting

[www.lansingmi.gov/winterstreets](http://www.lansingmi.gov/winterstreets).

Warming center information can be found on the [City of Lansing's website](#). The city urges residents to not leave their homes to go out into the cold, unless necessary. These warming centers are for those that absolutely need to be there.

Lansing residents can sign up for Lansing Alert to receive text or email updates and notifications regarding the City's snow removal operations at [www.lansingmi.gov/lansingalert](http://www.lansingmi.gov/lansingalert).

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