



OFFICE OF MAYOR ANDY SCHOR

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Snow Emergency Remains in Effect

City of Lansing Closure Continues through Thursday, January 31st, 2019

(LANSING) – Due to the continued extreme winter weather, the City of Lansing Snow Emergency remains in effect. City Hall, 54-A District Court and city facilities will remain closed on Thursday, January 31, 2019. All City of Lansing sponsored events and meetings, including City Council, are also cancelled on Thursday.

Capital Area Recycling and Trash (CART) collections will be delayed by an additional day. Meaning Wednesday, January 30th, collections will be pushed to Friday, February 1st. Thursday, January 31st, collections will be pushed to Saturday, February 2nd.

During the continued 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. While the city will not ticket drivers, officials ask residents to use common sense to determine what is essential vs. nonessential. Possible essential driving examples include driving to your place of employment, driving to buy groceries, etc. The emergency vehicle access plan to support police, fire and EMS personnel, as well as the community-wide critical communications plan have both been implemented. All local resources are being utilized to their fullest extent. All operable plow trucks are out and clearing main streets and side streets throughout the city.

“To ensure that City of Lansing residents, employees, and visitors are safe, City of Lansing facilities will remain closed on Thursday,” said Mayor Andy Schor. “Temperatures will continue to remain below zero with a wind chill as low as -30 degrees. Additionally, road conditions will remain icy and hazardous with very low visibility. We need to minimize the amount of time that people are outside in this dangerously cold weather.”

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.

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The National Weather Service (NWS) is predicting blowing and drifting snow, as well as wind chills between -25 to -30 degrees. This means that frostbite could occur to exposed skin in as 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 1 to 3 inches of snow between Wednesday and Thursday. City officials urge residents to spend minimal time outside and be prepared if you must go outside.

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.

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.

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- 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.

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.

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