



TOWN OF MEDWAY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

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Town Administrator

Michael E. Boynton

Monday, March 13, 2017

As you are aware, Medway and all Massachusetts Communities are actively preparing for the approach and arrival of a major Winter Storm on Tuesday. Medway residents and businesses are asked and urged to pay close attention to weather forecasts and news reports regarding this large and potentially dangerous storm as it approaches our area. Please make any and all necessary preparations as soon as possible as conditions will deteriorate as we move through tonight into tomorrow morning. We expect to be impacted with a variety of heavy blowing and drifting snow, high winds, dangerous if not impassible travel conditions, and overall blizzard conditions throughout the storm. Our weather service is advising us to expect 18 inches of snow, with intense bands of 2 to 4 inches per hour from mid mid-morning through early evening. Power outages resulting from high winds and heavy snow are also a concern at this time.

Medway's Emergency Team has been actively preparing for this storm. Equipment and supplies are set to be deployed, and staff are closely monitoring the storm's progress, and are in communication with weather services, state emergency agencies as well as local utilities to provide a timely response here in Medway. Locally we are prepared to activate our Emergency Operations Center if conditions so dictate. All Medway Town Offices and the Medway Senior Center will be closed all day on Tuesday. All shuttle service to the MBTA station is cancelled for tomorrow. A decision on Wednesday morning service will be made once the storm is over. A decision on Medway Public Schools status for Tuesday will be announced later this afternoon.

There will be no trash or recycling collection on Tuesday, March 14th. All collection activity will be delayed one day with Tuesday's collection occurring on Wednesday, Wednesday's collection occurring on Thursday and so on for this week. At this time we anticipate that the Recycling Center will be open on Wednesday. Further information will be provided as the storm develops.

We also ask for your assistance both during AND after this storm. Please take note of the following:

- Please report any police, fire or medical emergency by dialing 911.**
- Road conditions will deteriorate rapidly early Tuesday morning. Plows and emergency personnel urge residents to stay off of roadways and heed the Statewide Travel Ban during the storm to allow emergency resources unimpeded access.**

-Please be certain to have flashlights, extra batteries, an extended supply of food and medications readily available should power outages occur and continue.

- Please check on neighbors who are elderly or disabled who may need some assistance.

- Power outages should be reported directly to EVERSOURCE at 800-592-2000. It is important that you make a record of these outages so that EVERSOURCE will know who is out. The Town will be in contact with our utilities throughout the storm. Please do not call the Police or Fire departments to report a power outage unless you have power lines down. Do not approach or touch any downed wires, and be extra cautious as some live wires may be hidden under the snow cover.

- Also, unless you are experiencing an emergency situation, please do not call the police or fire departments regarding the plowing of your street or road. DPS Crews, supervisors and contractors will be travelling throughout Town during the storm and will be certain all streets are plowed.

- Be certain to test the batteries in your carbon monoxide and smoke detectors in the event of a power failure. In addition, please be certain to keep all gas appliance and boiler exhaust vents around your home clear of building or drifting snow. A failure to clear these vents could allow dangerous carbon monoxide fumes to back up into your home.

- After the storm passes, please assist our Fire Department with the shoveling of Fire Hydrants near your home. In any fire situation seconds count and having a free and accessible hydrant is essential.

-In addition, please assist with the clearing of storm drains if possible in your area after the storm has passed. This will help to prevent localized flooding conditions from any rain and melting snow in the days that follow the storm.

- Please DO NOT plow, shovel, or snowblow snow into the street.

- After the storm, please be aware that it will be many hours before all streets, roads, and parking areas are fully plowed and cleared. To the greatest degree possible please give our crews time and space to complete their work.

Please contact the Department of Public Services with any questions regarding the storm, or to report any non-emergency conditions such as downed trees blocking streets or sidewalks. That number is (508)533-3221 and it will be activated at 7:30AM on Tuesday morning evening.

Residents can stay up to date with storm news via the Town of Medway official web site, as well as the Town of Medway Facebook page and Twitter account, @TownofMedway. Town staff will assist in updating Social Media with important information as needed.

We greatly appreciate your assistance and cooperation as the effects of this very large and severe storm move into our area. We will be monitoring the storm throughout the day and into the evening on Tuesday, and further updates will be provided as conditions warrant.

Thank you and please be safe.

**Michael Boynton,
Town Administrator**