

MEDIA ALERT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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East Providence Emergency Officials Prepare City for Impending Storm

East Providence, RI— A Winter Storm Watch is in effect for Saturday, Jan. 19 into Sunday, Jan. 20.

City of East Providence Mayor Bob DaSilva, together with city's police and fire chiefs and EMA deputy director and public works director have implemented an emergency plan for this weekend's impending storm.

Snow should begin about 9 p.m. Saturday evening with an accumulation of four to five inches before changing to sleet and freezing rain overnight. Temperatures are expected to drop into bitter cold temperatures on Sunday and Monday.

"The impending storm will bring heavy snow, sleet and freezing rain which is expected to lead to dangerous travel for some and potential power outages," DaSilva said. "Safety of our residents is our number one priority and we are asking residents to hunker down, stay home and avoid travel during the storm to allow our workers to clear city streets."

In the event of a parking ban during the storm, we will utilize the **CODE RED** feature on the city's website to contact the community. For emergencies during the storm please use emergency contacts below: **East Providence Police**: 401-435-7600 **East Providence Fire**: 401-435-7500 **National Grid**:1-800-465-1212 **Snow Plow Hotline**: 401-435-7751 **United Way 2-1-1**: Please dial 211 OR 1-800-367-2700 for additional emergency needs (shelter, food and elderly assistance)

MORE

We encourage residents to register for emergency updates via the CODE RED feature here: <u>https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/BF40D14979F0</u>

Storm Emergency Preparedness Tips:

- Working smoke alarms are especially important during a loss of power when people may use alternate forms of heating equipment, portable generators and candles.
- Never use candles for emergency lighting. Many things in your home can catch fire if they are too close to a candle's flame.
- Use flashlights for emergency lighting and stock up on batteries.
- Have a qualified repair company or licensed electrician inspect water-damaged appliances and home wiring after a flood.
- Portable generators are useful during storms, but if not used safely, they can cause injury and death.
- Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and as far away as possible from your home.
- Install and test carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month

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