

NEWS



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Office Of The Managing Director

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SNOW EMERGENCY ENDS: City Deactivates Emergency Operations Center

PHILADELPHIA, PA –With the winter storm winding down, Mayor Michael A. Nutter, City of Philadelphia Managing Director Camille Cates Barnett, PhD and Streets Department Commissioner Clarena I. W. Tolson have announced that the Snow Emergency declared for Philadelphia is officially over, and the City's Emergency Operations Center has been deactivated at noon today. Towing of vehicles from Snow Emergency Routes has also been suspended. If your car was towed, call 215-686-SNOW for its location. Do NOT call 911. A list of snow emergency routes can be found at www/phila.gov/streets.

Streets Commissioner Tolson reminds Philadelphians that trash and recycling will not be collected on Monday, March 2 due to snow removal operations, and that residents should expect a one day delay in trash and recycling collections for the remainder of the week.

Commissioner Tolson also asks residents to continue to follow regulations so crews can continue to safely and effectively remove snow from the roadways:

- Please park vehicles at least 20 feet from the corner, as required by law. Cars parked too close to the corner limit our ability to salt and plow roads.
- Do not shovel or plow snow into the street. This practice is illegal, and hampers our ability to effectively clear the roadways. Particularly with the anticipated freezing temperatures, placing snow in the street after it has been cleared will create dangerous icy patches, posing hazards to drivers and pedestrians.
- While clearing snow from your car or property, please place snow in a safe place on your property so that snow mounds do not obstruct the cleared pathway.
- Residents are reminded to drive carefully as black ice is expected to form on the roadways.
- Clear a sidewalk path at least 30" wide within 6 hours of the end of the storm.
- Clear snow from neighborhood sewer drains to allow melting snow to drain.
- Stay tuned to local media for updates.
- Check on sick and elderly neighbors.
- To request a SnowCat booklet, the Streets Department's handy reference booklet about the City's Snow and Ice Management Operation Plan.

As the precipitation continues today, Streets Department crews will continue to focus their efforts on treating roadways throughout the day. Residents are asked to begin calling Tuesday to report a street in need of salting or plowing.

In addition, the City has noted Code Blue is still in effect to provide additional support to the homeless. If you see a homeless person in need of assistance, please call the Homeless Outreach Coordination Center at 215-232-1984.

“This Snow Emergency is the first time we utilized our new social media networking sites to inform the public about critical information, and we found these sites to be very helpful in disseminating important information,” said Deputy Managing Director for Emergency Management MaryAnn E. Tierney. “The snow event also resulted in an additional forty new subscribers to ReadyNotifyPA, Philadelphia’s new emergency text alert system, since Sunday, March 1. This is proving to be a beneficial tool for us, as well.”

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