

New York City Office of Emergency Management

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE #27-14

NYC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ISSUES TRAVEL ADVISORY FOR WEDNESDAY

Heavy snow will significantly impact holiday travel

November 25, 2014 — The New York City Office of Emergency Management today issued a Travel Advisory for Wednesday, November 26. The National Weather Service has issued a Winter Weather Advisory beginning Wednesday at 7:00 A.M., until 1:00 A.M Thursday morning. A mixture of rain and snow is expected Wednesday morning, with a change to primarily snow by the early afternoon. A total of 3-5 inches of heavy, wet snow is possible across the city, creating dangerous driving conditions throughout the day Wednesday. Exercise caution when driving and allow for additional travel time. The NYC Department of Sanitation has issued a snow alert beginning Wednesday at 7:00 A.M. NYC Emergency Management encourages New Yorkers to take the following precautions:

For Motorists

- If you must drive a vehicle, monitor weather and traffic reports for the latest road conditions. Use mass transportation whenever possible.
- Use major streets or highways for travel whenever possible as these roadways will be cleared first.
- Drive slowly. Posted speed limits are for ideal weather conditions. Vehicles, including those with 4-wheel drive, take longer to stop on snow and ice than on dry pavement.
- If you skid, steer in the direction you want the car to go and straighten the wheel when the car moves in the desired direction.
- Keep the name and phone number of at least one local towing service in your car in case you break down or become stuck in the snow.
- Try to keep your vehicle's gas tank as full as possible.
- If you get stuck on the road stay with your car and contact a towing company.

For Pedestrians

- Exercise caution and avoid slippery surfaces; some ice may not be visible.
- Wear layers including a hat, gloves and scarf to stay protected from the cold. And, keep clothes and shoes dry.
- Keep fingertips, earlobes, and noses covered if you go outside.
- Have heightened awareness of cars, particularly when approaching or crossing intersections.

Winter Storm Preparations

The NYC Department of Sanitation has 424 salt spreaders loaded and ready to use. Should accumulations warrant, plows will be dispatched. The NYC Emergency Management Situation Room will activate in the early morning hours Wednesday to monitor and coordinate the City's response to the winter weather event. NYC Emergency Management remains in close contact with agency partners including the NYC Department of Sanitation, Department of Transportation, FDNY, NYPD, MTA, Con Edison, and others to coordinate storm preparation and response efforts.

Winter weather information and information about City services and storm response can be found by visiting the City's Severe Weather website at www.nyc.gov/severeweather or by calling 311. New Yorkers are also encouraged to sign up for Notify NYC, the City's free emergency notification system. Through Notify NYC, New Yorkers can receive phone calls, text messages, and/or emails alerts about severe weather events and other emergencies. To sign up for Notify NYC, call 311, visit www.nyc.gov, or follow @NotifyNYC on Twitter.

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