



Thomas B. Stephens, Secretary



Michael E. Dossett, Director

Weather Event: Snow

Report Date: January 18, 2019 Period Date: January 18-20, 2019

WEATHER WARNING

Widespread heavy rainfall of 1-2 inches will fall across Kentucky on Saturday. By early evening, rain will start changing over to snow from northwest to southeast. Light snow accumulations of less than 1" to 2" will likely result in slick roads Saturday night and early Sunday. Strong north winds will bring arctic air into the region. Expect wind chills in the single digits Sunday morning.

Severe Weather Overview

Arctic Blast and Strong Winds
Saturday Night – Sunday Night

Valid: Sunday, January 20, 2019 at 10 AM EST

Northwest winds gusting to 30 mph will usher in arctic air Saturday night

Temperatures will plummet 20 – 30°

Single digit wind chills expected Sunday AM

Highs in the 20s Sunday afternoon, colder across snowpack

National Weather Service
Louisville, Kentucky
01/18/2019 04:55 AM EST

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weather.gov/louisville

Published on: 01/18/2019 at 4:46AM

NWS Paducah

Weekend Weather Timing and Hazards

Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night
HEAVY PM	WINDY	Cold	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Locally heavy rainfall of 1 to 1.5 inches is possible. Minor flooding issues may develop. Rain will change to snow from northwest to southeast during the afternoon. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor snow accumulation is possible especially, along and north of the Ohio River. Blowing snow may reduce visibility. Water on bridges and overpasses may freeze into black ice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very cold despite a return to some sunshine. Wind chills values will be in the single digits to near 10 degrees during the hours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temperatures will fall into the teens in most locations. Single digit wind chill values are expected in some areas Sunday night and Monday morning.

National Weather Service – Paducah, KY

weather.gov/poh Search: NWS Paducah @NWSPaducah Issued: 1/18/2019 6:58 AM

Published on: 01/18/2019 at 7:05AM

NWS Louisville

Rain Changing to Snow Saturday Evening
Some Accumulations Possible

Expected Snowfall - Official NWS Forecast
Valid: 01/19/2019 07:00 AM - 01/20/2019 01:00 PM

1-2" of rain expected on Saturday

Rain will change over to snow from northwest to southeast late Saturday afternoon and evening

Snow accumulations likely Saturday evening – Sunday morning, highest in the Bluegrass region of KY and Southern IN

Expect slick road conditions to develop Saturday evening

National Weather Service
Louisville, Kentucky
01/18/2019 03:58 AM EST

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Published on: 01/18/2019 at 5:41AM

NWS Jackson

Accumulating Snow Potential Saturday Night into Sunday

What you need to know:

- Temperatures drop sharply with rain changing to snow.
- Late Saturday Night to Sunday Evening
- Roads may become icy & hazardous late Saturday night and Sunday. Travel delays are possible.

Snowfall Totals Saturday Night through Sunday

Weather Forecast Office
Jackson, KY
Issued Jan 18, 2019 6:16 AM EST

Some Uncertainty Remains - Check Back For Updates!

Published on: 01/18/2019 at 7:59AM

WS Wilmington

Expected Snowfall - Official NWS Forecast
Valid: 01/19/2019 01:00 AM - 01/20/2019 01:00 PM

Expected snowfall amounts (inches):
Celina: 7", Bellefontaine: 8", Columbus: 4", Wilmington: 4", Chillicothe: 3", Portsmouth: 2", Mayesville: 1", Owenion: 2", Batsville: 4", Lexington: 5", Richmond: 5"

National Weather Service
Wilmington Ohio
01/18/2019 06:20 AM EST

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weather.gov/in/winter

NWS Charleston

Expected Snowfall - Official NWS Forecast
Valid: 01/18/2019 04:00 AM - 01/18/2019 10:00 AM

Expected snowfall amounts (inches):
Abbeville: 0", Parkersburg: 0", Clarksburg: 2", Booneville: 1", Whiteside: 1", Sycamore: 4", Charleston: 0", Marlinton: 0", Cranston: 0", Logan: 0", Beckley: 4", Putnam: 1", Romney: 1"

National Weather Service
Charleston West Virginia
01/18/2019 04:23 AM EST

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Weather Safety

Before a Winter Storm

Prepare! Do not let a winter storm take you by surprise.

Before the storm strikes, make sure your home, office and vehicles are stocked with the supplies you might need. Make sure farm animals and pets also have the essentials they will need during a winter storm. Know how to dress for varying degrees of cold weather.

At Home and Work

Your primary concerns at home or work during a winter storm are loss of heat, power, and telephone service, and a shortage of supplies if storm conditions continue for more than a day. In either place, you should have available: flashlight and extra batteries, battery-powered NOAA Weather Radio and portable radio to receive emergency information, extra food and water such as dried fruit, nuts and granola bars, and other food requiring no cooking or refrigeration, extra prescription medicine, baby items such as diapers and formula, first-aid supplies, heating fuel, emergency heat source, fire extinguisher, smoke alarm, extra pet food and warm shelter for pets.

Home fires are common each winter when trying to stay warm. Review ways to keep your home and loved ones safe.

In Vehicles

Each year, on average, more than 6,000 people are killed and more than 480,000 are injured due to weather-related vehicle crashes. If you need to drive in snow or cold conditions, take it slow. Black ice can be difficult to see. If the temperature is near freezing, drive as if you are on ice, you may be!

Before you leave the house, especially before a longer trip in winter, make sure all fluid levels are full and ensure that the lights, heater, and windshield wipers in proper condition. Keep your gas tank near full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines. Avoid traveling alone. Let someone know your timetable and primary and alternate routes. Then call 511 for the latest traffic and road incidents, including construction and weather conditions and restrictions. Every state offers this Department of Transportation service. Call before you leave, it might change your plans!

Fully check and winterize your vehicle before the winter season begins. Carry a Winter Storm Survival Kit that includes the following: mobile phone, charger, batteries, blankets/sleeping bags, flashlight with extra batteries, first aid kit, knife, high-calorie, non-perishable food, extra clothing to keep dry, large empty can to use as emergency toilet, tissues and paper towels for sanitary purposes, small can and waterproof matches to melt snow for drinking water, sack of sand or cat litter for traction, shovel, windshield scraper and brush, tool kit, tow rope, battery booster cables, water container, candle and matches to provide light and lifesaving heat, compass and road maps.

On the Farm, Pet Owners

Move animals to sheltered areas or bring pets inside. Shelterbelts, properly placed and oriented, are better protection for cattle than confining shelters, such as sheds.

Haul extra feed to nearby feeding areas. Have water available.

Make sure pets have plenty of food and water and a warm shelter.

During a Winter Storm

When caught in a winter storm, there are life-saving actions you can take to protect yourself outside, in a vehicle, and inside your home or office.

Outside

Find Shelter: Try to stay dry and cover all exposed body parts.

When There Is No Shelter Nearby: Build a lean-to, windbreak or snow cave for protection from the wind. Build a fire for heat and to attract attention. Place rocks around the fire to absorb and reflect heat.

Melt Snow for Drinking Water: Eating unmelted snow will lower your body temperature.

Exercise: From time to time, move arms, legs, fingers, and toes vigorously to keep blood circulating and to keep warm. Avoid overexertion such as shoveling heavy snow, pushing a car or walking in deep snow if you are not in good health. The strain from the cold and the hard labor may cause a heart attack. Sweating could lead to a chill and hypothermia.

In Vehicles

If you must drive during a storm, take the following precautions:

Slow down! Even if the roads just look wet, they could still be slick. More than 6,000 fatalities occur on the roadways each year due to weather conditions.

Make sure your vehicle is completely clear of ice or snow before starting the trip. Flying snow from cars can cause accidents.

Let someone know where you are going and what route you will take. If something happens, this person will know where to start a search.

Do not leave the house without the following a fully charged mobile phone and car charger and an emergency supplies kit in your car.

If you are driving and begin to skid, remain calm, ease your foot off the gas and turn your wheels in the direction you want the front of the car to go. If you have an anti-lock braking system (ABS), apply steady pressure to the brake pedal. Never pump the brakes on an ABS equipped vehicle.

If you are having trouble seeing due to weather conditions, pull over to the side of the road and stop your car until visibility improves. Turn off your lights and use your parking break when stopped so that another car will not mistakenly follow your tail/brake lights and end up hitting you.

If Your Car Gets Stuck During A Storm

Stay in the vehicle! Run the motor about 10 minutes each hour for heat. While running the motor, open the window a little for fresh air to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Clear snow from the exhaust pipe to avoid gas poisoning. Be visible to rescuers. Turn on the dome light at night when running the engine. Tie a bright colored cloth, preferably red, to your antenna or door. After snow stops falling, raise the hood to indicate you need help.

Inside

When using heat from a fireplace, wood stove, space heater, etc., use fire safeguards and properly ventilate. If you have a gas furnace, make sure a snowdrift does not block it. If you have an upstairs gas furnace that vents out the roof, you may need to turn off the upstairs unit until the snow melts off your roof.

If your heat goes out, close off unneeded rooms to avoid wasting heat, stuff towels in cracks under doors, close blinds or curtains to keep in some heat.

Eat and drink lots of water and other non-caffeinated, non-alcoholic drinks to prevent dehydration.

Wear layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing. Remove layers to avoid overheating, perspiration, and subsequent chill.

After a Winter Storm

When the snow and ice melt, it is tempting to relieve that cabin fever and hit the roads. However, melting snow can cause floods, partially cleared roads may be icy or blocked, creeks and rivers often overflow from the rush of melting snow and ice. Heavy snow may have knocked down power lines and cause gas leaks, both of which can be deadly, but are not obvious at first glance.

Stay Informed

Stay tuned to your local news for updated information on road conditions.

Check with your local water company to ensure water is safe to drink, cook, and clean with after a major winter storm.

Check with utility companies to find out when electricity or gas services may be restored.

Before you drive your car, take time to ensure your exhaust pipe is clear

Brush all the snow off the car so it does not fall on your windshield while you are driving or fly onto other cars, causing an accident.

Leave extra time for blocked, closed, or icy roads.

Never use a portable generator inside your home or garage. Review generator safety.

Let your family and close friends know that you are okay so they can help spread the word. Register with American Red Cross's "Safe and Well" listings. You can use this resource to search missing friends and relatives as well.

Roadway Hazards After a Winter Storm

Black ice is patchy ice on roadways that cannot easily be seen. Even if roadways have been cleared of snow following a storm, any water left on the roadways may freeze, resulting in a clear sheet of ice, also known as black ice. It is most dangerous in the early morning due to below freezing nighttime temperatures.

Potholes are a common road hazard following winter precipitation and can be difficult to see and can cause serious damage to your vehicle. Be sure to report potholes to your county or local Department of Transportation.

Personnel Cabinet Message



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Adverse Weather Policy

Weather, Adverse

The normal working hours for employees in State Government Offices are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., prevailing local time, Mondays through Fridays. Appointing Authorities are authorized to approve flexible schedules when necessary to promote efficiency or provide reasonable accommodation. It is the policy of State Government that state offices will remain open and that the working hours of state employees will not be altered due to adverse weather conditions. When weather conditions prevent an employee from reporting to work at the normal time, or when an employee decides not to report for work or to leave work early due to weather conditions, the following apply:

1. If operational needs allow, supervisors are required to make every reasonable effort to arrange schedules to allow employees to make up time not worked. Employees are not allowed to make up the work if it would result in the employee working over 40 hours in a workweek. The employee has one hundred twenty-three (123) days from the occurrence of the absence to make up the time lost. If it is not made up within that time, it will be deducted first from available compensatory leave and/or then from available annual leave. If, at that time, the employee has no annual or compensatory leave available, then the employee shall have his/her time charged to leave without pay. If the employee transfers to another agency or is no longer employed by state government before the leave is made up, the leave shall be charged to compensatory and/or annual leave or deducted from the employee's final pay; or
2. Employees may use accumulated annual or compensatory leave time for the late arrival, early departure or missed work day; or
3. If compensatory and annual leave have been exhausted, the employee may take leave without pay for the late arrival, early departure or missed workday.

Any employee who is on leave that was arranged prior to the inclement weather shall use the leave as originally requested.

NOTE: Employees designated for mandatory operations are not eligible for adverse weather leave. Employees who work in 24-hour facilities such as parks, hospitals, prisons, or residential facilities and employees who work in law enforcement, disaster, and emergency services, and on highway crews are the standard exception to the normal working hour's policy and are not eligible to utilize this leave type.

LEGAL REFERENCES: 101 KAR 2:102, Section 11 and 101 KAR 3:015, Section 11 <https://personnel.ky.gov/DHRA/EmployeeHandbook.pdf>