



FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Jessica Fitzwater
County Executive

John K. Peterson, Chief Administrative Officer

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.: 01-2026

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 23, 2026

WHEREAS, Frederick County is subject to hazards or disasters, including but not limited to severe winter storms and other acts harmful to citizens; and

WHEREAS, having been advised and informed by the Director of the Frederick County Division of Emergency Management and other applicable sources that, as a result of the impact of a severe winter storm, an emergency or disaster exists in the County and the normal capacity and capability of the County to respond has been exceeded; and

WHEREAS, current weather conditions warrant activating the County's Emergency Operations Plans; and

WHEREAS, this Executive Order will facilitate the deployment and sharing of resources; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of reductions in the normal level of service are required due to the severity of the weather conditions, which overwhelmed the capacity and capabilities of public resources; and

WHEREAS, to implement the above, and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens, an Executive Order of the Principal Executive Officer of Frederick County is appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JESSICA FITZWATER, COUNTY EXECUTIVE OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CHARTER OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, AND THE LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY DECLARE:

THAT a local state of emergency exists in Frederick County beginning at 12 o'clock p.m. on January 24, 2026 and County agencies are hereby authorized to activate emergency plans and take such actions as are necessary or appropriate to protect lives during the duration of this emergency;

THAT to protect the health, safety, and welfare of citizens and to facilitate the movement of emergency vehicles, all individuals are requested to refrain from operating vehicles on any County-owned or maintained road from 10:00 o'clock p.m. on Saturday, January 24, 2026 until the state of emergency is terminated by the County Executive, or expires, unless the vehicle is:



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- an emergency vehicle,
- a vehicle providing essential services responding to the state of emergency,
- a vehicle taking essential personnel to their workplaces, or
- a vehicle transporting individuals with medical or related emergencies.

This Executive Order is issued this 23rd day of January, 2026, and shall remain in effect for 30 days or until rescinded.

Handwritten signature of John Peterson in blue ink.
John Peterson
Chief Administrative Officer

Handwritten signature of Jessica Fitzwater in blue ink.
Jessica Fitzwater
Frederick County Executive