Important Phone Numbers

Frederick County Public Information Line (recorded message) ......................... (301) 600-3000
Frederick County Sheriff’s Office .... (301) 600-1046
Maryland State Police ...................... (301) 600-4151
Frederick City Police Department ... (301) 694-2100
Dept. of Natural Resources (Police)... (301) 777-7771
Fire & Ambulance Emergencies ONLY ................. 911

Frederick County
Office of Highway Operations .......... (301) 600-1564
Frederick County TransIT .................. (301) 600-2065
Frederick County Animal Control ...... (301) 600-1546
After Hours ............................................... (301) 600-1544
Frederick County Recycling Office .... (301) 600-2960
Frederick County Public Libraries .... (301) 600-1613
Frederick County Public Schools ...... (301) 644-1000
Frederick Community College .......... (301) 845-2400
MD State Highway Administration .... (301) 624-8250
After Hours ............................................... (800) 543-2515

FOR DELAYS OR CANCELLATIONS
Tune into your radio or watch cable channel 10 as well as County government’s cable channel 19 or Frederick County Public School’s cable channel 18.

Staff at the Frederick County Public Works Division, Department of Highway and Facility Maintenance, Office of Highway Operations, would like to take this opportunity to thank all Frederick County citizens for their cooperation during the winter season.

Always ready to work around the clock, Highway Operations’ crew are trained and certified in snow removal. The Division’s policy is to open the County’s priority roads, secondary roads and then subdivision and gravel roads. Please be advised that weather conditions such as wind, pavement temperatures and duration of storm will affect snow and ice removal.

Communication between departments and agencies is critical during snowy conditions. After a storm hits, contact is made with the Board of Education, State Highway Administration, Frederick County Government and Frederick County Division of Emergency Management.

If emergency vehicles are out on a call, plows will be pulled from their runs to provide assistance as needed. News Releases are sent to radio stations, news
stations, County Executive’s Office, County Council, Municipal offices and staff for updates on road and weather conditions. Citizens are encouraged to listen to the radio or television for these updates.

The goal is to make the winter season safe and enjoyable.

During a Winter Storm .................................................................

...listen to the local radio stations or cable TV channel 19 before and during a storm, to see if a Snow Emergency has been declared, and to find out about closings and cancellations.

...for medical emergencies where roads have not been plowed, call 911.

...do not drive during a severe winter storm and DO NOT PARK on the traveled portion of any road, highway or cul-de-sac to allow better maneuverability for the trucks.

...take extra precautions when driving near school bus stops where young children may be waiting.

...treat all non-working traffic lights as stop signs and proceed cautiously at intersections.

...stay at least two car lengths behind a snow plow for every 20 mph you are traveling, never cut in between a caravan of plows clearing the highway.

...all-weather tires are required during snow emergencies.

For Storm Safety ...........................................................................

...beware of “black ice” (roads that look wet but are actually glazed with ice). Ramps and bridges freeze first.

...vehicles parked or abandoned on snow emergency routes during a snow emergency will be towed. Look for “Snow Emergency Route” signs on State roads. ALL County roads are snow emergency routes. (County Code §1-15-7 (B)) If you report disabled or illegally parked vehicles to the Frederick County Sheriff’s Office, please supply the vehicle’s tag number.

...make sure that cars parked in driveways do not extend onto the sidewalk, street or roadway (especially not in a cul-de-sac).

...if you shovel your driveway apron before the plow comes through, always shovel snow to the right, facing the street. This will lower the amount of snow that will be pushed across your driveway entrance.

...remember that homeowners and businesses are responsible for clearing sidewalks.

Weathering the Storm ....................................................................

...stock up on batteries, flashlights and canned food in case of a power outage. Keep a manual can opener on hand.

...all-weather tires are required during snow emergencies.

...have a battery-operated radio.

...keep extra medicine, blankets and bottled water on hand.

...check your oil tank to ensure that you have enough oil to get through the storm.

...make sure your utility company is informed, if you have electrically operated medical equipment at home.

...if power is lost, unplug all appliances except one lamp.

...if power is lost, keep your refrigerator closed as much as possible. Food will stay frozen between 36-48 hours in a fully loaded fridge; 24 hours in a half-filled one.

...to avoid Carbon Monoxide poisoning in your home, have your furnace and chimney cleaned and inspected yearly by a professional, regardless of the fuel source (i.e., oil, wood, gas, coal); in your car, make sure you have proper ventilation and the exhaust pipe is free of debris before running the engine for prolonged periods.

...remember to fully charge your cell phone, have blankets and cat litter in your vehicle just in case you are stranded.

...and remember to bring in your pets because pets get cold too.