

Media Release

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5:00 am

From the Offices of:

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## **Second Major Winter Storm is Impacting Columbia and Boone County**

### **Local Governments and Emergency Services Urge People to Stay Off Roads**

The second major winter storm in a week is spreading heavy wet snow across all of Boone County this morning. Boone County, the City of Columbia, and emergency officials are urging the public to stay off roads tonight and Tuesday.

The National Weather Service has issued a Winter Storm Warning for Columbia and Boone County and is forecasting between 6 and 10 inches of snow through Tuesday afternoon. Snow fall rates of 2 inches an hour or more are possible. For the second time in a week, thunder snow is also possible.

#### **Travel:**

- Do not travel unless essential. MoDOT has issued a “No Travel Advisory” for the entire state of Missouri
- Do not travel if your vehicle is not equipped with snow tires or chains and an emergency kit.
- Do not travel if your driving skills on snow and ice are not proficient.
- If your vehicle becomes stranded and is in the driving lane(s), it will be towed at the owner’s expense; there will not be grace period.
- For non-injury crashes, drivers should call the non-emergency Law Enforcement number at 573-442-6131
- Road crews report over 3 inches of snow on the ground and roads are slick.

### **Government Operations:**

- City Offices will be closed on Tuesday.
  - Transit buses will not run
  - Refuse and recycling collection will not occur on Tuesday. Collection will be delayed one day.
  - Parking meters will not be enforced.
  - All city meetings scheduled for Tuesday are postponed.
  - The ARC will be closed Tuesday
  - Boone County Health and Human Services offices are closed on Tuesday
  - Municipal Court cases are postponed on Tuesday and Wednesday.
  - Police and Fire Administrative Offices will be closed on Tuesday; all other emergency services will be available.
- County of Boone
  - Boone County Offices are closed on Tuesday
  - Boone County Courts are closed on Tuesday

### **Utilities**

- City of Columbia
  - No outages currently reported
- Boone Electric
  - Twitter feed is reporting about 1,110 outages across Boone County

Road crews are also reporting low hanging power lines and tree limbs down on roadways in some locations. Columbia and Boone County residents should watch for downed electrical lines and not approach them.

Again, emergency management officials and local government officials are stressing no travel unless essential to avoid the issues experienced last week when hundreds of motorists and cars were stranded in Columbia and Boone County. Staying off the roadways will allow plowing crews from MoDOT, Boone County, and the City of Columbia to complete their work and it will assist in keeping roadways clear for emergency services such as law enforcement, fire, and EMS as well as utility service vehicles responding to any power outages.

