



Dannel P. Malloy, Governor

State of Connecticut Situation Report



Department of Emergency
Management & Homeland Security

February 1-3, 2011 SNOWSTORM
Report Period: February 1, 2011 1000HRS

STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER ACTIVATION LEVEL:

Governor Malloy activated the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at 0900 hours, February 1 2011.

AGENCIES PRESENT AT SEOC AT TIME OF REPORT:

CT DEMHS, CT Department of Transportation, CT Department of Public Safety, CT Military Department, CT Department of Agriculture, Commission on Fire Prevention and Control, FEMA SLO

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE FROM STATE EOC:

None

DEMHS SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

- Press Release of 01/30:

GOVERNOR MALLOY URGES RESIDENTS TO TAKE NEXT FEW DAYS TO CLEAR SNOW FROM ROOFS, SIDE-VENTED HEATING SYSTEMS, MAILBOXES AND HYDRANTS

(HARTFORD, CT) -- Governor Dannel P. Malloy today urged residents to take the next few days to clear snow from their roofs, side-vented heating systems, mailboxes and fire hydrants. While the next accumulating snow storm is expected to arrive in Connecticut mid-week, the next few days will be relatively dry and calm.

"Snow in the winter in New England is nothing new, but clearly this is not an ordinary winter in terms of the amount and intensity of snow we've received," said Governor Malloy. "Over the next few days while we're not expecting to get any accumulating snow, I'd urge Connecticut residents to prepare for the next six weeks or so, and clear off snow from unstable structures and their roofs -- this is especially important for buildings that have anything close to a flat roof. I'd also ask that people make sure their side-vented heating systems, mailboxes and any hydrants around their property are clear. The state will continue to prepare for and respond to snow storms and related issues that may come our way, but I'm asking Connecticut residents to help us out."

- Press Release of 01/30

DEMHS Cites Weather Service Statement on SnowLoads, Urges Residents, Business Owners to Clear Snow & Ice from Rooftops Now

Next Round of Storms Could Significantly Increase Snow Load on Roofs, Increasing Risk of Collapse

Citing a special weather statement from the National Weather Service, the Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) today strongly urged residents and business owners to clear the buildup of ice and snow from buildings, especially from flat or low-pitch roofs and decks. Another round of winter weather is expected to hit the state early this week and could add significantly to the amount of snow on rooftops, increasing the risk of collapse. The Weather Service warns that "a deep snowpack remains across a large portion of the tri-state area. A general 10 to 30 inches of snow depth remains on the ground, with the deepest snow values across Connecticut." (See the full statement at

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/product.php?site=NWS&issuedby=OKX&product=SPS&format=CI&version=1&glossary=1&highlight=on>)

"The heavier-than-expected snow Connecticut received in last week's storm led to a number of roof and barn collapses," DEMHS Commissioner Peter J. Boynton said. "Although sadly several animals were lost, fortunately none of the incidents so far have caused any human injuries. The risks to life and property are serious, however. And when the snow is allowed to accumulate, the danger grows with every storm. "Governor Malloy yesterday urged people to clear their roofs and decks -- and today the National Weather Service added its voice to the call for action," the Commissioner said. "Snow may seem light and fluffy when you are looking at it from inside. But anyone who has shoveled a driveway knows it has real weight, and that weight increases tremendously when rain, freezing rain or sleet is added to the mix. We strongly encourage everyone to be mindful of the stress on roofs and decks and -- if in doubt -- have the situation checked by as professional as quickly as possible."

- 1/31 Conference Call

DEMHS held a snow-load advisory conference call with DPS (state building inspector) and ten other state agencies including the Departments of Education and Economic and Community Development. This call resulted in a DEMHS

snow-load advisory being sent by the Department of Education to all school districts in CT and DECD sending an advisory to private sector businesses via CBIA and Chambers of Commerce.

- 1/30 Conference Call
Governor Malloy held a storm-preparation conference call with Commissioners at 4:30 and 8:30 PM.
- Weather advisories/updates continue to be sent to all towns and state agencies beginning Sunday 01/30.

WEATHER UPDATE:

At 8:45 AM radar and surface observations showed a large area of moderate to occasionally heavy snow falling over most of Southern New England and stretching back to Northern PA. Temperatures currently range from the mid teens in Northern CT to the mid 20's along the coast. Snowfall currently ranges from an inch far eastern CT up to 3" near the NY border.

This Morning: Moderate to occasionally heavy snow for the rest of the morning. The snow is expected to mix with sleet along the coast by 10:00 AM. The snow/sleet line is then forecast to move slowly north and may reach the Danbury / Middletown / Norwich areas by noontime. Temperatures are forecast to very slowly rise to near 20 F inland and into the upper 20's at the coast.

This Afternoon: Snow in northern CT with sleet and some freezing rain in Southern CT during the early afternoon. The precipitation is expected to taper off to light snow, sleet and drizzle by 4:00 PM with 4 - 8 inches of snow expected by the afternoon rush hour. High temperatures are forecast to range from the low 20's in Northern CT to around 30 F along the immediate coast. Some minor icing on power lines and trees is possible in Southern CT with less than ¼" of icing expected. The impact on travel is expected to be moderate for this afternoon's rush hour.

Tonight: Drizzle this evening and into the early overnight with an additional inch of snow, sleet and some freezing rain possible. Lows in the 20's. The precipitation is expected to become moderate to heavy again by 4:00 AM Wednesday morning. A minor impact on overnight travel is expected.

Wednesday: In Northern CT...Snow and sleet, moderate to heavy at times continuing through the day into the mid-afternoon with highs reaching the upper 20's by late afternoon. **In Southern CT...**Sleet in the morning slowly changing to freezing rain and some plain rain along the coast. The mix is forecast to continue into the mid-afternoon with highs reaching the low 30's by late afternoon. A considerable risk of roof and deck collapses is forecast during the day on Wednesday and continuing into Thursday morning as the snow, sleet and rain add more weight to roofs and decks. Considerable icing (1/4" to 1/2") may also occur causing significant power outages.

The lighter mixed precipitation late Wednesday afternoon is expected to change back to all snow across the state Wednesday evening. A period of light to moderate snow may occur for several hours Wednesday evening and end around midnight. The outlook for both Wednesday rush hours is for a moderate impact on travel in Southern CT with mixed precipitation melting on most treated and heavily traveled highways, but sticking to the less traveled and treated secondary roads. A moderate to major impact is possible in Northern CT with heavy snow falling, mixed with sleet at times.

Storm total snowfall is forecast to range from 3 - 6 inches along the coast up to 16 inches in Northern CT. Approximately 1 inch of sleet and ½" - ¾" inch of total icing is also possible during the storm. Forecast confidence remains good at this time, however the rain/snow line is going to be fairly narrow (only 150 miles between all rain and all snow) across Southern New England during the storm. If the track of the storm moves 50 miles north or south then we can expect the snowfall amounts and icing to shift north or south with the storm track.

DEMHS REGIONS

Region 1

EOCs Activated: Bridgeport

Region 2

Nothing Significant to Report

Region 3

EOCs Activated: Manchester - partial
Hartford - partial
Southington - partial

- Both sides of Route 44 are closed from West Hartford to Avon after a car hit a pedestrian at the top of Avon Mountain, police said. Injuries were reported, but they do not appear to be life-threatening, police said.

Region 4

Nothing significant to report

Region 5

Incidents:

Bethel: Reported by EMD Tom Galliford 203-794-8518 reported that on Monday had 1 partial roof collapse of commercial building, also reports that three businesses were closed indefinitely over concerns with roofs.

Watertown: Chief Black 860-945-5220 reporting a large roof collapse at a warehouse. 60' by 100' no injuries, building collapsed on top of numerous stored vehicles.

New Fairfield: Reported by EMD Jean Flynn 203-312-5723 town is prepositioning generators at emergency shelters if need arises for them to be opened.

EOCs open: None at this time

OTHER AGENCIES/PARTNERS:

Department of Public Safety

Several spin outs, disabled motorists and accidents reported

Running Event Totals:

Tuesday 02/01/11 0500 hours – 0930 hours

Calls for Service: **268**

Accidents: **22**

Accidents with Injuries: **02**

Fatalities: **0**

DUI- **00**

Motorist Assists: **57**

Non-Reportable: **215**

CT Department of Transportation

Nothing significant to report

Military Department/Connecticut National Guard

The Connecticut National Guard/Military Department has one (1) representative in the SEOC. The CTNG Joint Operations Center (JOC) is not currently activated. 492 CTNG/Military Department full-time Federal and State employees have reported to work. We are planning for possible mission assignments. Units have been notified of possible utilization by the Governor

Commission on Fire Prevention and Control

Nothing significant to report

CT Department of Agriculture

Reported as of 2/1/11 8:00 AM

1. Woodhill Farm – Hampton - Free stall dairy barn 6 cows dead
2. Sheperd – Middlefield Pole barn - 2 sheep dead
3. Greenbacker Farm – Durham Hoop structure calf barn - 1 calf dead
4. Linde Farm – Somers - Horse barn 2 horses dead
5. Sunnycroft Farm – Thompson Indoor horse riding arena
6. Triangle A Farm – Middlefield Free stall dairy barn

7. Fairholm Farm – Woodstock Free stall dairy barn. Cows were relocated to a new barn 2 weeks prior to collapse. However, tractors and equipment stored in building were damaged.
8. Spezzano – N. Branford Hay Storage barn
9. Rich – Oxford Machinery Storage
10. Lipton – Somers 3 steel- framed crop and machinery storage barns with the following dimensions: 120 x 60, 120 x 40 and 100 x 50
11. AJP Milk Hauling - Roxbury - Garage collapsed on spare bulk milk tank truck
12. Christoferi – Northfield 10 greenhouses
13. DeFrancesco – Northfield - 4 greenhouses
14. Cecarelli – Northfield - 1 greenhouse
15. Maynard – Coventry - 4 greenhouses
16. Albasi – Bolton - 1 greenhouse
17. Garden Barn – Vernon green house collapse
18. Woodstock Orchards – Woodstock High tunnel greenhouse
19. Dzen – South Windsor - 2 tobacco barns (recently refurbished) used for straw storage.
20. Fairview Farm – Woodstock - Free stall dairy barn (1/31/11) Workers were on roof removing snow when owner heard creaking sounds. Workers evacuated roof. 100 cows were immediately removed from barn. Barn collapsed 30 seconds after cows were removed.
21. Sherman Farms – Woodstock - 100 foot roof over silage feeder collapsed trapping 2 dairy heifers. Heifers survived with no extensive injuries.

www.ct.gov/demhs

