

WINTER STORM UPDATE FROM DESPP / DEMHS AT 5:15 PM

Winter Storm Update from DESPP / DEMHS...

No Significant Changes Since Previous Forecast...

STATUS OF THE STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER - ACTIVATED

At 5:00 PM radar and surface reports indicated that moderate wet snow was occurring across the higher terrain of Northwest Hills including the Northern Half of Fairfield County. Warmer air aloft has changed the wet snow in Central and Eastern CT to rain and sleet along the I-84 Corridor. Snow is sticking to many roads in Western CT at this time and travel conditions are poor on many secondary roads in the NW Hills. The major highways are holding steady with some slick spots especially in the higher elevations. Temperatures are holding in the low 30's inland and into the mid to upper 30's along to the coast. CL&P and UI are currently reporting a total of 7,405 outages primarily NW of the I-84 Corridor.

This Evening...The mixed precipitation in Central CT is expected to change back to wet snow from West to East between 8:00 - 10:00 PM this evening with some additional accumulation before the snow tapers off between 9:00 - midnight. Total snowfall is forecast to range from little or no accumulation in South Central CT and Southeastern CT, 2 - 3" near the Southwestern Coast, 3 - 6 in the Central Valley's, and 8 - 14" in the Northwest Hills. The amount of accumulation will depend greatly on elevation with locations above 500 feet West of the Connecticut River receiving much more accumulation than the valleys and hilltops above 1,000 feet receiving the greatest amounts. Roadways are expected to receive about half the accumulation of the grassy areas in most towns. North winds are forecast to be sustained at 15 MPH with gusts to 45 MPH along the Southeast Coast. No significant coastal flooding is expected. The overall impact of this event is expected to be moderate for travel and minor for power outages.

The Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security will continue to monitor the latest conditions and will send out another update at 7:00 PM this evening.