



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Town of West Hartford issues a Severe Cold Alert

WEST HARTFORD, CT (12-18-2019) -- Snow squalls, gusty wind, and sub-zero wind chills begin this evening and will continue through the day on Thursday, December 19, 2019.

West Hartford's Emergency Management Office wants to provide residents with some general information to help prepare. In many cases, cold emergencies **can** be prevented or mitigated through awareness and planning. The **Winter Storm document** provides some measures that you can take during very cold weather, as well as the signs and symptoms of medical emergencies related to cold, and when to call 911. Check <https://www.ready.gov/winter-weather> for more information.

As you prepare, consider that West Hartford has a robust network of Town facilities and local amenities where you can seek relief from the cold. Our Town libraries, senior centers, community center, and local shopping centers, such as the West Farms Mall, are open and heated. Check www.westhartfordct.gov/leisureservices and http://www.westhartfordlibrary.org/i_want_to/hours.asp for locations and hours.

Please remember to check on your elderly neighbors or those who may require assistance. If you become aware of anyone in need of shelter, dial 2-1-1. Staff will connect you to resources in the area.

Our Police and Fire Departments will be fully staffed and prepared to respond to any emergency. Contact West Hartford Public Safety Dispatch at 860-523-5203 for assistance.

The State of Connecticut Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security has activated its Severe Cold Weather protocol and is ready to help too (see <https://portal.ct.gov/DEMHS/Emergency-Management/Resources-For-Individuals/Winter-Weather-Awareness/Cold-Weather-Protocol>).

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