

NEWS RELEASE

FRANCONIA TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT
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www.franconiatownship.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DECLARATION OF SNOW EMERGENCY

Franconia Township has declared a Snow Emergency effective 8:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 7, 2018 and lasting until 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 8, 2018. This declaration is enacted in advance of the heavy snowfall that is expected over the next thirty-six hours. We are asking our residents to assist the Highway Department's efforts to keep the roads clear during and after the storm.

It is anticipated that the heavy texture of the snow accompanied by high winds may result in the downing of trees and power lines. Residents are advised to contact the police department if anyone encounters issues such as medical needs, transportation to an emergency shelter, and the like. Preparations have been made with the township Emergency Management team to assist with these matters.

Listed below are general safety reminders as well as the provisions of Section 173, Article VI of the Franconia Township Code, which defines the particulars of the snow emergency.

VEHICLES

In order to allow the Franconia Township Highway Department to properly clear the roads of the snow, we are requesting that vehicles should not be parked on any Franconia Township roads or streets. Of special concern are the core of culs-de-sac streets where plowing requires a different technique.

Due to the potential for the anticipated snowfall of twelve inches or more, the possibility of vehicles becoming stalled or stuck in the snow is greatly increased. It is recommended that residents refrain from driving until after the highways have been cleared.

If a vehicle becomes stalled or incapable of moving under its own power, please notify the police department as soon as possible at 215-723-6777. If a vehicle becomes an obstruction to the plowing process or to the regular movement of traffic once the highway is cleared, the police department will have the vehicle towed from the location at the owner's expense.

SIDEWALKS

All owners, tenants or occupants of occupied properties, and the owners or agents in charge of unoccupied properties, abutting on public streets in Franconia Township, are required to remove the snow from the sidewalks not later than 30 hours after snow or sleet has ceased to fall. It is recommended that the cleared path be at least thirty inches wide. The use of snow and ice controls such as rock salt and similar materials are beneficial to the clearing of the sidewalk.

Residents are reminded that snow and ice that is removed from properties cannot be deposited onto street gutters or onto the street surfaces. This only hampers the plowing efforts of the snow removal crews. Where snow and ice are removed from the pathway, it may be placed or piled on the curb side of the sidewalk.

REMOVAL OF SNOW AND ICE FROM VEHICLES

Please remove all snow and ice that has accumulated onto the surfaces your vehicle. Chunks of "flying" snow and ice create a hazard to other drivers and can cause serious damage to the windows of those vehicles. The Pennsylvania Vehicle Code requires that all snow and ice must be removed before the vehicle is to be driven.

UPDATES

Please check the Franconia Township web site as well as the police department Facebook page for updates throughout the storm.

<http://www.franconiatownship.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/FranconiaPolice>



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