

City of Wharton

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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City of Wharton Preparation for Severe Weather

Wharton, TX, January 20, 2025-

City facilities will be closed today, Monday, Jan. 20th in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. City facilities will also be closed on Tuesday, Jan. 21st due to inclement weather. The City of Wharton Municipal Court will also be closed.

The National Weather Service has announced that our region will have a potentially historic Winter Storm beginning on Monday night and continuing Tuesday producing widespread snow and ice and dangerous or impossible driving conditions around Houston for perhaps multiple days.

A Winter Storm Warning will be in effect from 6 pm Monday to 6 pm Tuesday. Expected snow amounts have increased across southern and central areas. Snow amounts are expected to range from 2 to 4 inches in northern areas, 3 to 5 inches in central and eastern areas, and 1 to 3 inches in southern areas. Locally higher amounts are possible. Ice accumulations of up to a tenth of an inch are possible across southern/coastal areas. A very cold week is on tap with minimum temperatures below freezing area-wide through Thursday morning.

With temperatures expected to drop below freezing, it is a good time to protect People, Pets, Pipes, and Plants.

Additional Safeguards & Information:

- CenterPoint Outage Tracker: <https://tracker.centerpointenergy.com/map/>
- ERCOT's Grid Conditions Dashboards: <https://bit.ly/3GoWLdO>
- NWS Houston/Galveston: <https://bit.ly/2WtVSQ1>
- Hourly Forecasts (Click Your Location): <https://bit.ly/36zYej4>
- Avoid going outside if it is not necessary. If you do, make sure you layer up from head to toe.
- Pets, like humans, are vulnerable to cold temperatures. If not taken care of properly, they can succumb to frostbite and even hypothermia.
- Make sure to cover all your exposed pipes with a cover. You can also cover your pipes with towels, duct tape, or another adhesive strap, as long as they are wrapped tightly.

- When cold weather hits, bringing in all of your outdoor plants is a good idea. If you can't bring in the plant, cover it with a blanket to make sure they do not die.

The City of Wharton will continue to monitor the weather for the safety of all citizens. Please stay informed by tuning into local radio, and local television stations and by liking the Wharton Police Department and/or the City of Wharton OEM's Facebook page.

Also, if you or someone you know has not signed up for the emergency alert system to keep you better informed of emergencies, city-related issues, and notifications, do it today. The signup for the system can be found on the City of Wharton website at www.cityofwharton.com by clicking the Sign Up for Smart911 button.

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