



Town of Warrenton
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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Town of Warrenton Activates Emergency Operations Plan Ahead of Historic Winter Storm Fern

Warrenton, VA - The Town of Warrenton has officially activated its Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) in response to Winter Storm Fern, a confirmed historic weather event. With the National Weather Service (NWS) issuing a Winter Storm Warning effectively through Monday morning, we are urging residents to finalize all safety preparations immediately and are strongly encouraged to stay off the roads. The Town is moving to maximum readiness to ensure the safety of our residents and the continuity of our critical infrastructure.

Updated Triple-Phase Forecast

Residents should prepare for three distinct phases of hazardous weather:

- Phase 1 (Immediate): Extreme Cold. A Cold Weather Advisory is currently in effect. Residents are advised to limit outdoor exposure.
- Phase 2 (Saturday-Sunday): Heavy Snow & Ice. Light snow begins Saturday afternoon, turning heavy overnight. Sunday will see a transition to sleet and freezing rain.
 - Snowfall: 10 to 13 inches expected.
 - Ice: Up to 1/3" of accumulation, posing a severe risk for widespread power outages and downed trees.
- Phase 3 (Monday-Next Week): Historic Deep Freeze. Temperatures will remain below freezing. Wind chills are projected to plummet to -11°F by Monday night.

Town Operations & Public Safety

All Town departments are operating around the clock to manage storm conditions and maintain public safety. Crews have adjusted schedules and equipment to support continuous snow and ice removal, while emergency management staff are coordinating closely with essential personnel and community partners. Measures are in place to support critical infrastructure and maintain utility stability, and police patrols are actively monitoring road conditions to ensure public safety.

Snow Emergency Routes & Parking

Snow Emergency Routes are currently in effect as of today, Saturday, January 24th at 8:00 AM. All vehicles must be removed from designated Snow Emergency Routes by 12:00 PM. Vehicles remaining on these routes after the deadline may be towed to allow for essential snow clearing.

Non-Emergency Hotline

The Town has a non-emergency hotline ready for essential services or non-life-threatening support. Residents may call (540) 215-0054 (Option #4). Staff are triaging requests based on urgency. For any life-threatening emergencies, dial 911.

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