



## EMERGENCY NEWS FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

State Emergency Operations Center, Camp Murray, Washington  
Emergency Management Division, Washington Military Department

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### **For immediate release**

News release no. 7

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Web addresses: [www.emd.wa.gov](http://www.emd.wa.gov) and [www.wadisasternews.com](http://www.wadisasternews.com)

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## **Winter storm update – January 22, 3:30 p.m.**

**Camp Murray, Wash.**—The State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activated to Phase III on Jan. 18, 12:00 a.m. in response to winter storm conditions throughout the state.. The EOC will be fully activated until further notice.

**Governor Emergency Proclamation: has been signed and is available at**  
<http://www.governor.wa.gov/news/news-view.asp?pressRelease=1838&newsType=1>

### **Counties, Cities, and Tribes with open Emergency Operations Centers or On-Call**

Counties: Pierce, Thurston

Cities: Puyallup

Tribes: Muckleshoot Tribe

### **State agencies actively involved in response/support**

Washington State Department of Transportation, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Washington State National Guard, Washington State Patrol, and Washington Department of Commerce/Energy.

### **Damage Assessment**

Damage assessment guidance will be sent to local jurisdictions Monday or Tuesday.

### **Road Closures**

- SR 121 Both Directions - Complete closure of SR 121, known locally as Maytown Road, in both directions, between (MP 1) and (MP 2.5) or Tilley Road at Maytown road due to multiple trees and downed power lines across the roadway.
- Drivers should check their route at: <http://wsdot.com/traffic/trafficalerts/default.aspx>. WSDOT will update this website as conditions change.
- Updated travel information is also available by calling 5-1-1.

## Weather

Breezy to very windy across the area today.

- Coast: very strong winds.
- NW interior: 25-40 mph, gusts to 60 mph.
- Hood Canal: possible 1-4 inches of snow.
- Olympics: possible 4-9 inches of snow.
- East Puget Sound lowlands: strong easterly gap winds in the SE 20-30 mph, gusts to 50 mph.
- Cascade Mountains: possible 6-12 inches.
- High surf along the coast, 18-22 feet.
- La Push: possible coastal flooding.

Seattle: <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sew/>

Spokane: <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/otx/>

Portland: <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/pqr/>

Pendleton: <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/pdt/>

## Landslide and Debris Flow Update

Three West Lake Sammamish Parkway homes damaged by mudslide, no injuries reported.

## Energy Outage Update; 11:00 a.m.

The hardest hit counties at this point are Thurston, Pierce, King, and Snohomish. Restoration could continue into the week especially if additional damage is sustained. On Saturday morning, 250 power line crews, along with crew coordinators and damage assessors are in Thurston, Pierce and King counties making repairs and restoring power. Approximately 75 percent of PSE's customer outages from the past week are now back on line.

If PSE customers discover damage to their weatherhead, the pole-like structure where the electrical service enters the home, PSE cannot legally restore power until the damage has been repaired by a licensed technician. See link below for weatherhead graphic.

<http://pse.com/accountsandservices/ServiceAlert/Pages/Real-time-Updates.aspx>

For current information on PSE power restoration:

<http://pse.com/accountsandservices/ServiceAlert/Pages/SAM.aspx>

## Insurance Coverage

The Office of the Insurance Commissioner has published a comprehensive question and answer sheet on Winter Weather Insurance Coverage. It can be found on the Commissioner's website at [http://www.insurance.wa.gov/consumers/tips/winter\\_weather.shtml](http://www.insurance.wa.gov/consumers/tips/winter_weather.shtml). The office has also set-up a consumer hotline number to report problems with insurance companies. The hotline number is 1-800-562-6900.

## Preparedness Actions

Residents should consider the following:

- **Provide assistance to your neighbors**, especially the elderly or disabled by helping with debris removal, and clearing of driveways and sidewalks. Activate your Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) program. <http://www.emd.wa.gov/myn/index.shtml>

- **Carbon monoxide poisoning danger:** don't use generators, barbeques or kerosene heaters indoors.  
[http://www.emd.wa.gov/preparedness/videos/video\\_carbonmonoxide.shtml](http://www.emd.wa.gov/preparedness/videos/video_carbonmonoxide.shtml) and
  - **Use generators safely:**  
[http://www.emd.wa.gov/preparedness/videos/video\\_generatorsafety.shtml](http://www.emd.wa.gov/preparedness/videos/video_generatorsafety.shtml)
  - **Downed power lines:** Stay at least 30 feet away from. Never attempt to move or walk under a downed power line. Avoid trees and branches that are in contact with the power line. If you are in a car when a power line falls on it, stay in the car and call 9-1-1.  
[http://www.emd.wa.gov/preparedness/videos/video\\_downed\\_power\\_line\\_safety.shtml](http://www.emd.wa.gov/preparedness/videos/video_downed_power_line_safety.shtml)
  - **Food safety:** If the power goes out, keep refrigerator/freezer doors closed; keeps food frozen up to two days. [http://www.emd.wa.gov/preparedness/prep\\_foodsafety.shtml](http://www.emd.wa.gov/preparedness/prep_foodsafety.shtml)
  - **Flooding:** do not walk or drive through flooded areas.  
<http://www.emd.wa.gov/activations/Activation.shtml#resources>
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### Calling 9-1-1

The State Enhanced 911 Office and local telephone carriers remind citizens in the affected area:

- To stay off the telephone unless you have a critical need to make a telephone call. Remember a FAX or a computer also uses a telephone line and its use may affect your ability to get immediate help in a life-threatening emergency.
- DO NOT call 9-1-1 unless you need an emergency response from police, fire or emergency medical personnel. DO NOT call 9-1-1 unnecessarily. 9-1-1 lines must be kept open for people who have a true emergency.
- If you experience other types of problems not related to these emergency services, call the appropriate telephone number for those services.
- If you pick up your telephone to make a call and do not hear dial tone, DO NOT HANG UP. Simply wait a few seconds, and you will get dial tone and be able to make your call.

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