

For immediate release
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City preparing for snow, rain

Jan. 20, 2016 - Hampton officials, including Public Works, Police, Fire and the Department of Emergency Management, continue monitoring the weather and two storm systems that are expected to bring rain and snow to the region in the next few days.

According to the National Weather Service, there are two weather events expected in the next three days, bringing snow flurries and showers late Wednesday and early Thursday and snow or freezing rain Friday and Saturday. Total accumulation for the area is expected to be less than an inch, with wind gusts of 30 miles per hour. The Weather Service also said the risk of coastal flooding is minimal, although there could be some flooding Saturday into Sunday.

Public Works will begin pretreating roads against ice later today. The pretreatment is good for about 48 hours. Throughout the week and into the weekend, city staff, including Public Works, Parks, police and fire, will monitor the weather and respond as needed.

Public Works has 2000 gallons of brine, 1,000 tons of salt and 25 snow plows available. The city also has more than 130 employees trained to use snow removal equipment.

The city's homeless shelter program, HELP (Hampton Roads Ecumenical Lodgings and Provisions) is offering assistance through A Night's Welcome, the program that allows local congregations to rotate hospitality by providing shelter, dinner and breakfast during the winter. Through Saturday, this week's shelter is provided by Hampton Baptist Church - through First Presbyterian Church at 514 South Armistead Ave. HELP also operates a day center at 329 Buckroe Ave.

For the latest news on preparations for inclement weather, go to www.hampton.gov.