



Board of Commissioners

PRESS RELEASE

lakecountyohio.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 1, 2024

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Commissioners Declare State of Emergency in Lake County, Ohio and Close County Offices on Monday, December 2, 2024

PAINESVILLE, Ohio, December 1, 2024— In a special meeting convened today, the Lake County Board of Commissioners unanimously declared a state of emergency in response to the severe winter storm affecting our region. This declaration allows for the immediate mobilization of resources necessary to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our residents.

In this snow emergency and now that Lake County and some of its communities have Declared a State of Emergency, this gives us the ability to work with the county, local communities to share resources, once they are requested. If resources aren't available locally then we will submit a resource request to the State EMA to locate resources for those communities in need," stated Emergency Management Director Joseph A. Busher.

The decision was made after a thorough assessment of the current weather conditions, which include heavy snowfall, freezing temperatures, and hazardous road conditions throughout Lake County. The forecast indicates that these challenging weather patterns are expected to continue, potentially exacerbating the situation for residents and first responders alike.

"Our top priority is the safety of our community," said Commission President, John T. Plecnik. "We encourage all residents to stay off the roads unless absolutely necessary, and to take the precautions needed to protect themselves and their families during this storm."

"Eastern Lake County drivers are urged to use extreme caution if venturing out due to poor road conditions. Due to the heavy amount of snow that has come down across Lake County, especially along the shoreline and east, roads are covered with snow with icy conditions below. Our sheriff deputies are responding to many accidents on the roadways, and many cars have slid off the road and have become disabled. If you have to venture out, we urge you to use extreme caution while driving. Also, make sure you have warm clothes and a blanket so that if you become disabled you stay warm," said Sheriff Frank Leonbruno.

Lake County Offices (excluding the Lake County Sheriff's Office) will be closed on December 2, 2024.

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