



COUNTY OF FLUVANNA

"Responsive & Responsible Government"

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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| Date: | Jan 6, 2022 |
| Contacts: | Kelly Belanger Harris, Public Information Officer Ph: (434) 591-1910 kharris@fluvannacounty.org |
| Headline: | Emergency Shelter Opens at Fluvanna County High School |

The National Weather Service in Wakefield continues to monitor another winter weather system expected to impact Fluvanna County beginning Thursday night, January 6, 2022 and continuing into Friday, January 7. With many in Fluvanna County still without power and the system predicted to add another 2 – 4 inches of accumulation, **Fluvanna County will convert the current warming station located at the Fluvanna County High School, 1918 Thomas Jefferson Parkway, Palmyra, VA into an Emergency Shelter beginning at 5:00pm, today, Thursday, January 6, 2022. The shelter will be open overnight.**

Fluvanna County residents who need emergency shelter are encouraged to plan early and arrive before the snow is forecasted to begin around 10pm this evening. A limited number of sleeping cots are available, however linens and blankets are not. Please bring bedding with you.

- Food and water will be available.
- Bring:
 - bedding
 - medications and medications list
 - glasses, contact lenses, contact lens cases, storage solution
 - emergency contact list
 - chargers for your devices
 - entertainment – earbuds, books, puzzles, crosswords, word search, kindle, portable DVD with earbuds,
- Residents must be self-sufficient or have a caretaker present.
- There is **no wifi access**.
- **If you need transportation to the emergency shelter, please call 434-591-1995.**
- **Masks are required inside the shelter/warming station.**

General Reminders:

- The warming station/shelter is available for anyone who would like to stop by and charge devices during open hours.
 - Make plans early to get where you are going.
 - Make a list of all medications you or a loved one take – take the list, and your medications, with you if you plan to stay away from home.
 - Once the snow begins, please stay off the roads unless **ABSOLUTELY** mandatory. This helps to decrease the burden on Law Enforcement, Fire & Emergency Services, as well as snow clearing vehicles, and utility crews.
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- Please follow these safety tips from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management when using a portable generator or heater while you are without power:
 - Never use a portable generator indoors, even with a window open
 - Place at least 20 feet from the house or garage
 - Point the exhaust away from doors, windows, and vents
 - All heaters need space – Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away from portable space heaters.

More information about preparing for winter weather can be found at:

- Virginia Department of Emergency Management:
<https://www.vaemergency.gov/threats/winter-weather/>
- Ready.gov - <https://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>
- American Red Cross - <https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/winter-storm.html>

Stay up to date with the latest forecast:

- <https://www.weather.gov/akq/Brief>
- <https://www.weather.gov/akq/winter>

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