

CITY OF PATERSON
DIVISION OF OEM

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**City of Paterson
Office of Emergency Management**

SEVERE WEATHER ADVISORY

Effective: Saturday, January 7, 2026 – Early Sunday

The City of Paterson Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is advising residents of **severe winter weather conditions** associated with an arctic front that will impact the area beginning **Saturday, January 7, 2026**, and continuing into early Sunday.

Weather Overview

- **Snowfall:** Light snow expected with **1–2 inches of accumulation**
- **Winds:** Strong northwest winds **15–30 mph**, with gusts **up to 50 mph**
- **Extreme Cold:** Dangerous subzero wind chills
- **Warnings:** **Extreme Cold Warnings** are in effect Saturday into early Sunday afternoon

Wind Chill Forecast

- **Saturday:** Wind chills of **-5°F to -15°F**
- **Saturday Night into Early Sunday:** Wind chills of **-15°F to -25°F**

Expected Impacts

- **Frostbite and hypothermia** can occur rapidly on exposed skin — frostbite may develop in **15 to 30 minutes**
- **Strong wind gusts** may blow around unsecured objects, down tree limbs, and cause **isolated power outages**
- **Freezing temperatures** may cause **poorly insulated water pipes** to freeze or burst
- Extreme cold may lead to **muscle stiffness**, increasing the risk of slips, falls, and injuries

Serious Health Risks

At wind chills near **-20°F**, the human body loses heat faster than it can produce it. This can result in:

- **Frostbite:** Damage to skin and tissue, especially fingers, toes, ears, and nose
- **Hypothermia:** Uncontrollable shivering, confusion, slurred speech, and exhaustion
- **Respiratory distress:** Cold air may trigger coughing or breathing difficulties
- **Cardiovascular strain:** Increased risk of heart attack or stroke due to vessel constriction

Warming Center Information

The **City of Paterson Warming Center**, located at **545 West Broadway**, is **OPEN and staffed 24 hours a day until further notice**.

If you know of an **unhoused individual** or someone in immediate danger due to the cold, **call 911**.

Safety Recommendations

- Avoid prolonged outdoor exposure
- Cover all exposed skin
- Dress in **multiple warm layers**
- Secure loose outdoor items
- Check on elderly neighbors and those with medical conditions
- Bring pets indoors

The City of Paterson Office of Emergency Management will continue to monitor conditions and provide updates as necessary.

Please take this severe weather seriously and stay safe.