

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hill County, TX - As impacts from the winter storm blanketing the area continue to increase, Hill County and municipal governments across the jurisdiction are taking steps to provide emergency services. A federal, state and county disaster declaration has been issued. As of noon today just over 3,100 people were without power in Hill County and ERCOT mandated rolling blackouts were on-going. Hotels and motels in Hillsboro currently have power and rooms available, and several warming stations have been opened across the county.

"Many of the power outages across the county have been caused by traffic incidents. Driving conditions are treacherous. Our first-responder resources and power resources are maxed out. Please stay off the roads if at all possible, and do everything you can to help conserve power," said Hill County Judge Justin Lewis. "We're doing everything we can to provide emergency assistance, but Texas infrastructure is simply not built to sustain under these extreme conditions, and we all must do our part to help carry us through the next few days. I know Hill County will come through for one another, because we always do in a time of crisis, and we need everyone to help out with this," stated Lewis.

Warming Stations in Hill County - Please call ahead before traveling to a warming station because operations are subject to change depending on power availability.

Location: Hill County Fairgrounds, 205 Stadium Drive, Hillsboro, TX
Need to Know: Bring food and water if possible. Pets are only allowed if in a crate
Contact Information: Hill County, 254-582-2023

Location: City of Whitney Annex, 102 N Colorado St, Whitney, TX
Need to Know: Will not be operational until later this afternoon. Bring food and water if possible. No pets allowed.
Contact Information: Whitney Police Department, 254-694-2638

Location: Hubbard Civic Center, 300 N Magnolia Ave, Hubbard, TX
Need to Know: Other locations may also be available with various policies in place, so please call ahead before planning to arrive in Hubbard for shelter at any of the warming stations.
Contact: City of Hubbard, 254-205-6211

Location: HILCO Civic & Event Center, 1000 S Files St, Itasca, TX
Need to know: Operational status of this warming station is unknown at press time. Please follow Itasca Emergency Management on Facebook for the latest status updates.

The weather conditions are also impacting government service operations across the area. At the time of release of this information, the Hill County Courthouse, City of Whitney City Hall and Hubbard City Hall will be closed for non-essential operations through Wednesday, February 17th. In addition, City of Hillsboro non-essential services will be closed through Tuesday, February 16th and status for operations in following days will be announced. Please check with your local jurisdictions for status of operations. This is only a partial

listing of closures known at this time.

People interested in monitoring updates from Hill County on the situation will find the most current information on the Hill County Emergency Management Facebook Page. The County will also provide regular updates to KHBR 1560 AM Radio and the Hillsboro Reporter.

In addition, the County has an emergency notification system. If you would like to receive phone call, text or email updates as warranted, you can register with the Hill County Emergency Notification System. Visit the Office of Emergency Management website at www.hilloem.com, scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on emergency alerts. Follow the prompts to set up your account.

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