

WEATHER WATCH-

Closing Schools for Inclement Weather



WEATHER WATCH

- **Accu-Weather Alert**
 - Up to 48 hours prior to potential storm arrival
 - General information about timing and impact of storm
 - 24 hours per day, 7 days per week
- **Accu-Weather Warning**
 - Advises storm is imminent
 - Specifics of storm-
 - Timing
 - Type and amount of precipitation
 - Temperature
 - Road conditions

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1. Storm Alert <input type="checkbox"/> 2. See Storm Warning <input type="checkbox"/> 3. See Updated Warning <input type="checkbox"/> 4. See Special Statement <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Previously Issued _____ Remains in Effect	ACCU WEATHER SNOW WARNING SERVICE™ 385 SCIENCE PARK RD., STATE COLLEGE, PA 16803 Joel N. Myers, PhD, President Elliot Abrams, MS, CCM, Sr. Vice President	If you have questions, call (814) 235-8721
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STORM ALERT Exclusively For CARROLL COUNTY, MD <u>Wednesday, 07-DEC-2005</u> Time: <u>12:55 PM</u> Fcstr: <u>MS</u>		
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STORM ALERT

A. Chance of a Storm

- ☒ 6. Excellent
☐ 7. Good
☐ 8. Fair

B. Estimated Start Time

- ☒ 9. At 1-2 AM FRI
☐ 10. At _____ PM _____
☐ 11. Any flurries before this start time will bring little or no accumulation.

C. Storm Type

- ☒ 12. Snow 3-6 inches
☐ 13. Sleet
☐ 14. Freezing Rain (Glaze)
☐ 15. Rain Turning to Snow
☐ 16. Snow Turning to Rain
☐ 17. Blowing and Drifting
☐ 18. Plowing Operation

D. Estimated Storm Duration

- ☐ 19A. < 6 Hrs.
 → ☒ 19B. 6-12 Hrs.
☐ 19C. 12-18 Hrs.
☐ 19D. > 18 Hrs.

E. Additional Comments

1. Storm Alert
2. Storm Warning
3. Update to Storm Warning
4. See Special Statement
5. Previously Issued _____
Remains in Effect

ACCU WEATHER[®] **SNOW WARNING SERVICE[™]**

385 SCIENCE PARK RD., STATE COLLEGE, PA 16803
 Joel N. Myers, PhD, President
 Elliot Abrams, MS, CCM, Sr. Vice President

If you have questions,
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STORM WARNING

Exclusively For CARROLL COUNTY, MD

Thursday, 17-JAN-2008

Time: 3:50 AM

Fcstr: MJK

STORM ALERT

Chance of a Storm

6. Excellent
7. Good
8. Fair

Estimated Start Time

9. At _____ AM _____
10. At _____ PM _____
11. Any flurries before this start
time will bring little or no
accumulation.

Storm Type

12. Snow _____ inches
13. Sleet
14. Freezing Rain (Glaze)
15. Rain Turning to Snow
16. Snow Turning to Rain
17. Blowing and Drifting
18. Blowing Operation

Estimated Storm Duration

- 19A. < 6 Hrs.
- 19B. 6-12 Hrs.
- 19C. 12-18 Hrs.
- 19D. > 18 Hrs.

Additional Comments

STORM WARNING

Storm Type

20. Steady Snow
21. Intermittent Snow
22. Flurries or Squalls
23. Sleet
24. Freezing Rain (Glaze)
25. Snow Turning to Sleet
26. Snow Turning to Freezing Rain
27. Snow Turning to Rain
28. Ice Turning to Rain
29. Ice Turning to Snow
30. Rain Turning to Snow
31. Rain Turning to Ice
32. Blowing and Drifting

Storm Will Begin

33. At 9-11 AM THU
34. At _____ PM _____
35. Timing Excellent
36. Timing Good
37. Timing Uncertain
38. Little Accum. Before _____
39. Little or No Accumulation
between _____
and _____

H. Storm Will End

- ☐ 40. At _____ AM _____
- ☒ 41. At 2-4 PM THU
- ☐ 42. Timing Excellent
- ☒ 43. Timing Good
- ☐ 44. Timing Uncertain

I. Snow and Ice Accumulation

- ☒ 45. Snow Total: 1/2-2 inches
- ☐ 46. Ice Total: _____ inches
- ☐ 47. Additional Snow Accum. _____"
- ☐ 48. Additional Ice Accum. _____"
- ☐ 49. _____" by 4 PM Today
- ☐ 50. _____" by 6 AM Tomorrow
- ☐ 51. Two inches by _____

J. Snow Probability Potential

- ☒ 52. 45 % Chance of 2" or more
- ☒ 53. 20 % Chance of 4" or more
- ☐ 54. _____% Chance of 6" or more
- ☐ 55. _____% Chance of _____" or more
- ☐ 56. _____% Chance of _____" or more

K. Snow Type

- ☐ 57. Very Dry
- ☐ 58. Dry
- ☒ 59. Wet
- ☐ 60. Melting
- ☐ 61. Wet Becoming Dry
- ☐ 62. Dry Becoming Wet

L. Drifting

- ☒ 63. None
- ☐ 64. Light
- ☐ 65. Moderate
- ☐ 66. Severe
- ☐ 67. Becoming Moderate
- ☐ 68. Becoming Severe

M. Rain Type

- ☐ 69. Severe Freeze (Below 26°)
- ☐ 70. Freeze (26°-32°)
- ☐ 71. Cold (32°-35°)
- ☐ 72. Warm (Above 35°)
- ☐ 73. Becoming Warm

N. Freezing Rain Will Begin

- ☐ 74. At _____ AM _____
- ☐ 75. At _____ PM _____
- ☐ 76. Timing Excellent
- ☐ 77. Timing Good
- ☐ 78. Timing Uncertain

O. Effect of Rain

- ☒ 79. Turn Snow to Slush TO START
- ☒ 80. Wash Snow Away Slowly
- ☐ 81. Wash Snow Away Quickly
- ☒ 82. Make Roads Icy CHANCE
- ☐ 83. Icing On Trees/Power Lines
- ☐ 84. Localized Flooding

P. Temperatures and Winds

- ☒ 85. Thursday
- 6 AM 28 Speed 4 mph
- Noon 30 Gusts
- 4 PM 32 Direction ENE
- 10 PM 33 Becoming

Q. Temperatures and Winds

- ☒ 86. Friday
- 6 AM 29 Speed 13 mph
- Noon 44 Gusts 24 mph
- 4 PM 43 Direction WNW
- 10 PM 31 Becoming

R. Untreated Road Conditions

- ☐ 87. Main Roads Snow Covered
- ☒ 88. Main Roads Slushy IN SPOTS
- ☐ 89. Main Roads Icy
- ☐ 90. Main Roads Icy in Spots
- ☒ 91. Main Roads Wet
- ☒ 92. Secondary Roads Snow Covered
IN SPOTS
- ☒ 93. Secondary Roads Slushy
- ☐ 94. Secondary Roads Icy
- ☐ 95. Secondary Roads Icy in Spots
- ☐ 96. Secondary Roads Wet

S. Special Problems

- ☒ 97. Wet Roads May Freeze CHANCE
- ☐ 98. Slush Will Freeze
- ☐ 99. Rapid Change to Colder
- ☐ 100. Icing on Bridges
- ☐ 101. Icing at Intersections
- ☐ 102. Heavy Snow will Begin _____
- ☐ 103. Heavy Snow will End _____

T. Weather Following Storm

- ☐ 104. Flurries - Insignificant
- ☐ 105. Flurries - Little or No Accum.
- ☐ 106. Snow/Flurries - Stmt. to Follow
- ☐ 107. Freezing Drizzle
- ☐ 108. Hard Freeze
- ☐ 109. Rapid Freezeup After 4 PM
- ☐ 110. Prolonged Melting
- ☐ 111. Thaw Tonight
- ☒ 112. Thaw Tomorrow
- ☐ 113. Thaw _____
- ☐ 114. Thaw Today/Freezeup Tonight
- ☐ 115. Days and Nights Below 32°
- ☒ 116. Days Above 32°/Nights Below 32°
- ☐ 117. Very Windy
- ☐ 118. Drifting to Continue
- ☐ 119. Next Storm Possible _____

U. Additional Comments



WEATHER WATCH

- **On The Road**
 - 3:00 a.m. – start snow watch
 - Alert Maryland State Police
 - Four administrators travel the county divided into 4 quadrants
 - State roads – main
 - County roads – secondary
 - Developments
 - School parking lots, school sidewalks

Contacts

- Transportation administrators
 - Frederick, Baltimore, Howard and Washington Counties
- State Highway Administration
- Carroll County Roads Department
- CCPS Maintenance Department
- 2-way radio amongst 4 administrators throughout the time on road







ROAD EVALUATION

- Driving conditions
 - Traction
 - Stop on inclines
 - Start on inclines
 - Braking distance
- Amount of snow on roadway
- Ice
- Black ice
- Road temperature
- Status of salting and plowing operations

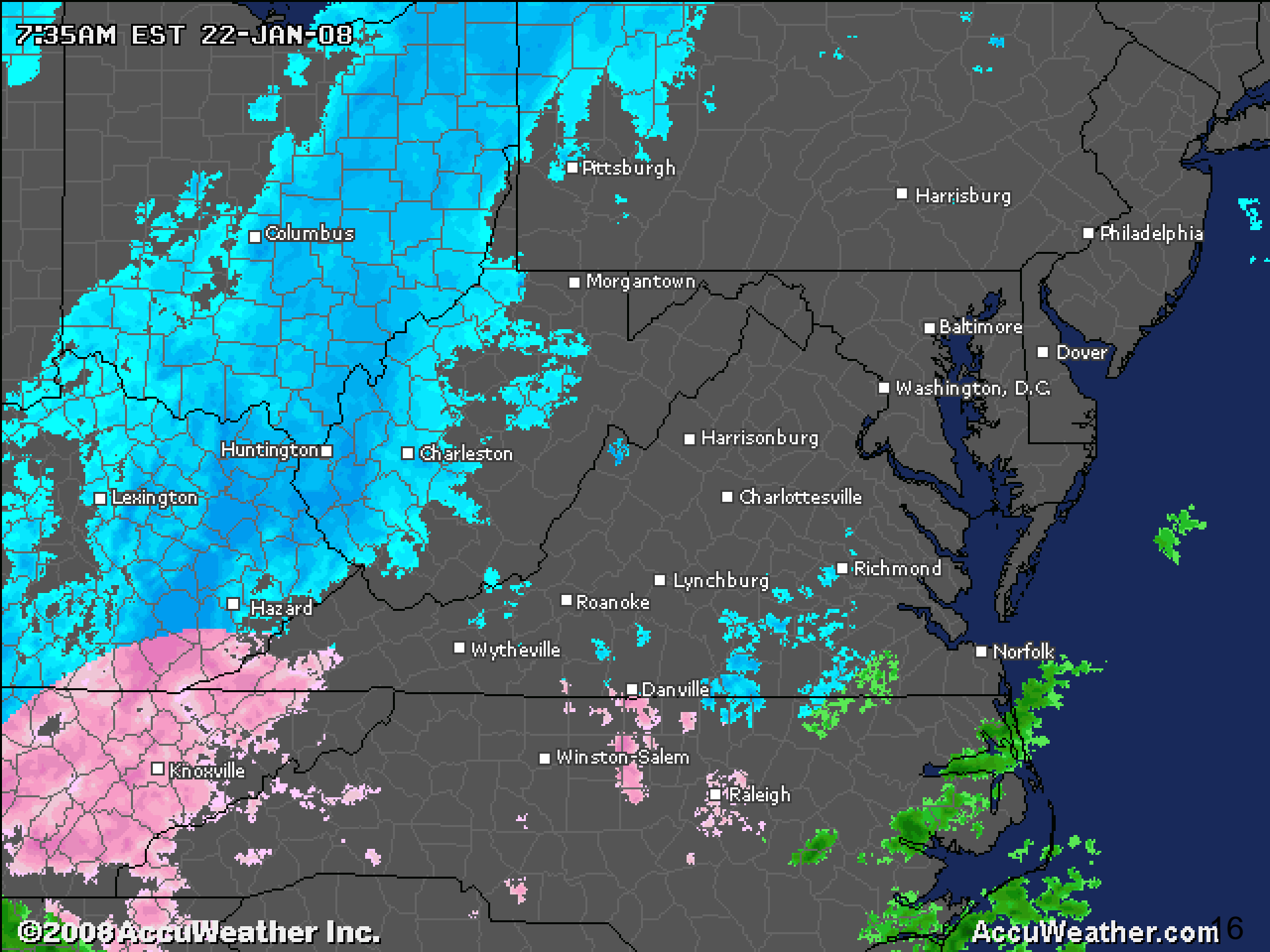






MAKING A RECOMMENDATION

- 5:00 A.M. – 5:30 A.M.
 - Recheck weather stations
 - Re-contact County Roads
 - Re-contact Maryland State Police
 - Re-contact State Roads
 - Update of storm patterns in surrounding counties
 - Review quadrant findings
 - Call Superintendent with recommendation



7:35AM EST 22-JAN-08

Pittsburgh

Harrisburg

Philadelphia

Columbus

Morgantown

Baltimore

Dover

Huntington

Charleston

Harrisonburg

Washington, D.C.

Lexington

Charlottesville

Hazard

Lynchburg

Richmond

Roanoke

Wytheville

Norfolk

Danville

Knoxville

Winston-Salem

Raleigh

MAKING THE ANNOUNCEMENT

- Local media
- Channel 21
- SchoolMessenger parent notification system
- CCPS website, Facebook & Twitter
- E-mail

INCLEMENT WEATHER DURING THE DAY (EARLY DISMISSAL)

- Contact weather stations – predictions of timing, amount and temperature
- Travel 4 quadrants – driving conditions
- Contact Maryland State Highway Administration
- Contact Carroll County Roads
- Contact Maryland State Police
- Contact surrounding counties
- Make a decision
 - 10:00 a.m. 3- hour early dismissal
 - 11:00 a.m. 2- hour early dismissal
 - 12:00 p.m. 1-hour early dismissal
 - Road conditions throughout storm – get better/get worse?

BUSES TRAVELING IN INCLEMENT WEATHER

- 16,000 plus pounds
- Radial tires
- Automatic/manual chains
- Automatic transmissions
- ABS braking systems
- Driven by trained, professional drivers
- 100 times safer than cars



CHALLENGES OF MAKING THE CALL

- Inaccurate weather forecasts
- County elevation
- Timing of storm
- Rapidly changing weather conditions
- Temperature changes
- Black Ice
- Drops in temperature not predicted
- Flurries turning into four inches of snow
- Driving skills of motoring public
- Timing of call – pre-trips start at 5:00 a.m.
- Different conditions in different parts of county
- Motoring public – rush hour
- Carroll temperatures lower than surrounding counties
- Carroll weather gets same amount of snow as Allegany County
- Need to attend school
- Good call!



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QUESTIONS

