



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

DATE:

January 5, 2024

TO:

The Honorable Josh Shapiro
Governor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

FROM:

Randy Padfield
Director, PA Emergency Management Agency

TIME PERIOD:

This report covers the period from 0600 hours, January 4, 2024, through 0600 hours, January 5, 2024.

STATUS REPORT: (as of 0600 hours)

THREAT STATUS:

National Terrorism Advisory System: There are no current advisories.

Commonwealth Response Coordination Center (CRCC) Status: Normal Operations

County EOC Activations: None

Municipal EOC Activations: None

CAPABILITIES STATUS:

PA All-Hazards Type-3 Incident Management/ Team – Mission Capable
PA-Task Force 1 (PA-TF1) – Mission Capable

INFRASTRUCTURE STATUS:

Major Road Closures:	I-95 in Delaware County
Power Outage Reports:	As of 0530 hours, 137 customers
Telephone Outage Reports:	None

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:

OPEN:

ROAD CLOSURE – Delaware County, 1/5/24 - I-95 northbound is closed between Exit #4 (US-322 East) and #5 (Kerlin Street) in Chester City due to a multi-vehicle accident

involving three passenger vehicles. No injuries or HAZMAT have been reported at this time. A quarter-mile-long trapped queue was turned around and released in less than an hour. An accident reconstruction is being conducted by the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP). Traffic is being detoured off at Exit #4.

COURTHOUSE CLOSURE – Bradford County, 1/4/24 - A smoke condition from an elevator belt fire closed the Bradford County Courthouse in Towanda Borough. The fire was extinguished, and the facility was ventilated. The courthouse was closed for the remainder of the day for cleaning. County offices not located in the courthouse operated under normal conditions. No injuries or HAZMAT were reported.

LINE OF DUTY DEATH – Dauphin County, 1/4/24 - A volunteer firefighter was found deceased in his fire vehicle outside his home. Funeral services and interment details are yet to be determined.

WATER MAIN BREAK – Cambria County, 1/1/24 - A water main break occurred in the area of West Triumph Street and South West Street in Ebensburg Borough. A boil water advisory is in effect for the entire area served by the Ebensburg Municipal Authority. All water customers in Ebensburg Borough, Cambria Township & Jackson Township are affected by the boil water advisory. Cambria County 911 is without running water and Cambria County Prison has low water pressure. The County has provided bottled water for the 911 Center. As of 1/3/24, repairs have been completed and service is restored. However, a boil water advisory remains in effect.

AIRCRAFT INCIDENT – Forest County, 12/31/23 - A general aviation airplane crashed in a heavily wooded area approximately three miles west of Marienville in Jenks Township. The sole occupant was found deceased. No HAZMAT issues were reported. The cause of the crash is unknown, and federal authorities are investigating.

RAIL INCIDENT – Blair County, 12/20/23 - Six Norfolk Southern freight cars derailed as it was leaving the Rose Yard at 223 North 8th Street in Altoona City. The cars fell on their side due to the derailment. One of the cars was carrying liquid nitrogen oxide and one was carrying ethyl methyl ketone. There were no breaches or injuries. This occurred on the railroads property and is not affecting any rail traffic. One of the locomotives involved in the incident leaked 40 gallons of diesel fuel on the track ballast in Rose Yard. On 12/21/23, the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) reported there were only five derailed cars consisting of one empty hopper, a tanker carrying vegetable oil, a boxcar of lumber, and two tankers of alcohol. Cleanup and remediation of the incident site is ongoing.

ADVERSE WEATHER 12/17- 12/18 – Statewide, 12/17/23 - Rain crossing Pennsylvania caused flooding in the central and eastern regions of the Commonwealth. The National Weather Service issued Flood and Flash Flood Warnings. Roadway flooding occurred in multiple counties that closed or restricted lanes. Local fire units evacuated eight residents to the Community Center in Darby Borough, Delaware County. Delaware County virtually activated their Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Luzerne County EOC was reported to be enhanced. All EOCs have returned to normal operations. All Flash Flood Warnings have expired, and all Flood Warnings expired on 12/19/23. A Declaration of Disaster Emergency was issued by the Borough of Collingdale, Delaware County.

POTENTIAL MINE SUBSIDENCE – Somerset County, 12/11/23 – A potential mine subsidence issue occurred at the Berlin Brothersvalley School in Berlin Borough. They have noticed that some of the school buildings have some masonry cracks that appear to be related to the ground shifting. They had a former DEP mine subsidence issue in the past, which

resulted in DEP stabilizing the sub terrain. Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation was onsite and investigated the potential for another mine subsidence event.

COMMERCIAL STRUCTURE FIRE – Berks County, 10/31/23 - A PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Emergency Responder was dispatched to 600 South 9th Street, City of Reading. They confirmed approximately 100 55-gallon drums of various chemicals, mostly unknown, are at the location. They noted there is evidence of past release, but none of recent or ongoing release. DEP will follow-up with property owner for cleanup. 11/1/23 - PA DEP has forwarded this incident along to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to take over the site. EPA will be working with their contractors to assess the site and remove the materials. On 11/2/23, the Reading Fire Department (RFD) was dispatched to the scene for a report of a fire. Upon arrival, RFD reported heavy fire on the third floor and requested a second alarm. Per NRC report # 1383327, the fire is causing a release of Hydrogen Peroxide, Formaldehyde, Citric Acid, and other unknown chemicals from drums at the abandoned chemical distribution facility. Berks County sent out a Shelter in Place Order through the media from Laurel Street to Rockland Street and 5th Street to 13th Street. This area contains one hospital, 14 schools and has a population estimated at 59,649 per GIS. The Shelter in Place Order was lifted in just over an hour and a half and residents were instructed to avoid the area due to firefighting operations. PA DEP reported, the EPA and PA DEP evaluated the site from the exterior of the building. Run-off has impacted both storm and sanitary sewer systems. The sewage treatment plant was notified as well as the Pottstown drinking water intake. Run-off was observed to be discolored and foamy. After discussing further actions with Reading Fire, the building has been deemed too unstable to enter at this time. They will be bringing in heavy machinery to tear down sections of the building. This will take several hours. PA DEP and EPA will meet back at the site at 0800 on 11/3/23. It's anticipated that at that time an assessment of the interior will be able to be completed. In the early morning hours of 11/3/23, part of the building collapsed due to the fire, so no one can evaluate the chemicals in the basement until the structure is deemed stable. The EPA is sending a mobile lab to analyze the chemicals when it is safe to do so. In addition, they are sending a Criminal Enforcement section to investigate the matter. PA DEP South Central Emergency Response is going to be onsite while there is a threat to the waterway or surrounding community. AS of 11/7/23, PA DEP continues to monitor the outfall to the Schuylkill River, with booms in place to catch additional materials. The US EPA estimates up to 150 containers, including drums, totes, and buckets, in the building with unknown contents. They expect the cleanup operation to run for several weeks while container contents are identified and sorted prior to disposal.

FAIRCHANCE BOROUGH DAM ISSUES - Fayette County, 9/21/23 - On Wednesday September 13, 2023, the Fayette County Department of Emergency Management was notified of an issue dealing with two dams that are owned by the Borough of Fairchance and are in the adjacent Georges Township. These dams received a notice of violations from the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Bureau of Dam Safety. Efforts are underway to correct these violations. The Borough of Fairchance submitted a Declaration of Disaster Emergency to expedite the process of making the necessary corrections. Fayette County will continue to monitor the progress on rectifying the situation with both systems. A Fayette County DEM dewatering pump was deployed to the borough to assist with drawdown attempts. On 10/4/23, Fayette County DEM reported that the Askon Hollow Dam was drained, and they were able to make repairs on the valve assembly. As of 10/13/23, both dams have been drained down and mitigation solutions are being researched. As of 10/30/23, all county-owned resources have been returned to the county. The project is moving into mitigation and the municipal engineers are working on the mitigation funding identification, project scope of work, and all necessary elements moving forward.

TRAIN VS TRACTOR TRAILER – Somerset County, 8/23/23 - A CSX freight train (L10023) struck a tri-axle truck hauling a trailered bulldozer at Cottage Lane and Carpenters Park Road in Paint Township (Windber). The locomotive had a 2,000-gallon fuel tank that was nearly full when the collision occurred. The tank was slit down the side releasing fuel oil down the right of way and eventually into the Stonycreek River. Two injured CSX employees were transported to local hospitals for treatment. PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and PA Fish and Boat Commission (FBC) responded. No fish kills were reported. CSX submitted NRC # 1377002. The leak at the tank was stopped and the river was boomed. Fuel was transferred out of the locomotive tank until they ran out of drums. Downstream notifications were made to Cambria County, including two nurseries. The PA FBC notified recreational groups that use the river. The road remains closed in the area. SPSI is the cleanup contractor, and on 8/24/23, they added hard boom around the soft boomed area below the locomotive, replaced the absorbents twice, and placed a second hard boom across the river at the bridge. As of 8/30/23, after rains overnight the right of way for mitigation efforts held. SPSI is scheduled to vacuum the collection area on 9/1/23; and remove the hard and absorbent boom from across the river. This will reopen the river for recreation. A semi-circle will remain with additional hard booms and buoys to create a buffer zone for the recreational vessels navigating nearby. Local recreational clubs and Cambria County were notified to allow nurseries to pull water from Stonycreek River. The roadway remains closed but that is because of another scheduled project that is occurring in the area. On 9/8/23, a 15-day report is being prepared by CSX to submit to PA DEP. Excavating the track ballast may compromise the integrity of the stream bank and track ballast and would close the track for an extended period. SPSI is looking at other options to facilitate the collection of fuel. PA DEP recommended discussions with their Clean Water Program as it would directly relate to the absorbent and collection booms that are being deployed at this time. The track remains closed. As of 9/21/23 - the terrain is not conducive to an interceptor trench and excavation is not considered an alternative. ARCADIS/SPSI looking to potentially flushing the soil with water. As of 11/3/2023, SPSI had been periodically replacing out the absorbents in the Stonycreek River during the month of October. SPSI was waiting on rain to flush the fuel to the absorbents however there was little rain in the last month to achieve this goal. On 11/2-3/23, SPSI utilized a vacuum to remove 4" of the contaminated rock/soil along the track and ballast. They will replace all of it with new rock. SPSI is also planning to flush the embankment on their own to the absorbents. The PFBC and DEP were both on-site during this recent remediation operation. Due to heavy rains on 11/22/23, most of the absorbent booms washed away and will be replaced.

TRAIN DERAILMENT – Columbiana County, Ohio, 2/3/23 - On 2/3/23 at 2130 hours, mutual aid crews from Beaver County responded to a train derailment near Taggart Street, East Palestine, Ohio. Approximately 53 railcars derailed and some of them caught fire. There were five cars of vinyl chloride within the wreckage. Around 2330 hours a call was received from an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 3 representative, and they advised there was no current impact to PA. EPA Region 5 and Ohio EPA set up air monitoring equipment and they also used handheld monitors, and nothing was detected. Members of the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Southwest Regional Office were also onsite monitoring through daylight and maintained a presence until there was no threat to PA. An IMAAC model showed a potential impact to residences in PA if harmful chemicals were released from any of the derailed cars. Beaver County EMA Coordinator reported that they followed Columbiana County, Ohio's lead and a message was sent out to 16 registered users in the one-mile zone to shelter in place. Ohio later changed their message to an evacuation, but Beaver County remained as a shelter-in-place due to no residences being impacted. Shell Monaca was provided green foam to help extinguish the fires. Clean-up contractors from SPSI and Hepaco responded to the scene. The shelter-in-place order remained in effect for Beaver County. Beaver County sent tankers from nine departments and an engine to assist in drafting

from a lake in town once the railroad deemed it was safe. As of 2/5/23, Columbiana County, Ohio EMA recommended a one-mile evacuation around the incident due to one of the vinyl chloride rail cars showing a temperature increase. This included the 10 homes that were sheltering in place within Beaver County. On 2/6/23, all 20 homes in the PA evacuation zone were evacuated. Beaver County Animal Response Team (CART) requested assistance for trailers from Washington and Westmoreland counties to assist with the evacuation of farm animals from Kindred Spirits Rescue Farm. The recommended evacuation zone remained at one mile. The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) ordered a partial activation of the Commonwealth Response Coordination Center (CRCC) at 1100 hours and Beaver County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) partially activated. A planned controlled detonation was performed to empty five rail cars into a trench to burn off the vinyl chloride. Norfolk Southern established a Family Assistance Center for affected residents in New Waterford, Ohio; Beaver Valley Intermediate School remained open. On 2/7/23, the plume from the controlled detonation on 2/6/23 dissipated with no significant air detection identified by EPA Region 3 or PA DEP. Norfolk Southern conducted wrecking operations of damaged cars at the sight. Normal readings were reported by the Ohio Civil Support Team after monitoring the inside of three residences. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources reported approximately 1,800 fish killed within the streams and creeks that were affected. Air monitoring continued and there were no contaminants or concerns. The PEMA CRCC demobilized on 2/8/23 at 1600 hours. All roads that were closed in PA, including PA-51, were reopened. The Beaver County EOC deactivated at 1200 hours on 2/10/23. A public inquiry line remains operational. On 2/14/23, the EPA identified three other chemicals that were part of the train. They continued to monitor the air and waterways for contamination. On 2/23/23, PEMA, in conjunction with the Departments of Health (DOH) and Environmental Protection, launched a website to provide information to Commonwealth residents about the derailment. On 2/28/23, the Pennsylvania Department of Health opened a Health Resource Center in Darlington Township, Beaver County for residents of Beaver and Lawrence counties who have health concerns following the Norfolk Southern train derailment. On 3/1/23, door-to-door surveys were conducted for 22 households within the 1-mile evacuation zone. Additional discussion led to a decision to do CDC outreach (door knocking) within the 2-mile radius in Pennsylvania, which began on 3/2/23. Approximately 450 healthcare providers participated in three webinars conducted on 2/28/23 and 3/1/23 for major medical providers in the Southwestern Region. Sample testing and review on Norfolk Southern soil sampling continued by Commonwealth agencies. The EPA Region 3 Director accompanied by staff, Pennsylvania Senator Casey, and Representative Deluzio toured the site on 3/2/23. On Monday, 3/6/23, Pennsylvania Governor Shapiro announced that Norfolk Southern has agreed to pay Pennsylvania millions of dollars for the impacts of the train derailment. Norfolk Southern agreed to reimburse local fire departments to replace contaminated or damaged equipment used during the response to the derailment, to provide funds for a Community Relief Fund to be run by officials in Beaver and Lawrence counties, and to reimburse state agencies (DEP, DOH, and PEMA) for associated costs. Norfolk Southern collected soil samples with representatives from the EPA present. Removal of the train tracks closest of Pennsylvania began over the weekend and was completed 3/5/23. Excavation of the contaminated soil began, and odors were expected to be released into the air. Air monitoring was increased during the process which is expected to take at least three to four days depending on the depth of the contaminants in the soil. The EPA requested Norfolk Southern to provide additional financial assistance to residents within one mile of the derailment site if they are impacted by the odors released during the excavation of the soil which the company has agreed too. Pennsylvania state agencies supported another East Palestine Community Resource Fair this Thursday at the East Palestine High School. Beaver County coordinated a separate Community Resource Fair for Pennsylvania residents for the following week which the state agencies supported. U.S. Senator Bob Casey completed a quick tour and talk at the Health Resource Center Monday morning. A Norfolk Southern contracted company sampled

16 private wells in Pennsylvania. DEP sampled 27 private wells in the area as of Monday with more sampling expected 3/7/23. On 3/8/23 DHS coordinated a call with Beaver and Lawrence counties about the possibility of applying for a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Emergency Response Grant (SERG) to provide funding for additional behavioral health services that may be required following this incident. DOH and PEMA also participated in the call. Excavation work at the site was temporarily stopped due to elevated readings and release of odor. The excavation of the soil at the south tracks of the derailment site was mostly complete. As of 3/13/23, Norfolk Southern was waiting on soil samples to come back from the elevated spots that were detected. Due to contaminants being detected during the initial excavation at two to four inches, additional sampling was done at 12 to 15 inches to make sure all contaminated soil is removed. Soil excavation for the north track was still in the planning process. As of 3/16/23, the excavation of the soil at the south tracks of the derailment site was completed. The Health Resource Center (HRC) completed its final daily operational period at 1400, 3/16/23. The HRC moved to operations on Thursdays beginning 3/23/23. Excavation of the north track and removal of contaminated soil and water continued. OSHA joined the on-site operations to provide support to the safety officer and ensure that the community and personnel are safe during operations. EPA Region 5 conducted an information session focused on air quality and air monitoring on 4/27/23. EPA Region 5 conducted an information session focused on surface water on Thursday, May 11, at the Way Station and First United Presbyterian Church in East Palestine. As of 6/27/23, excavation underneath Pleasant Drive was complete, and the roadway was opened for traffic on 6/28/23. Contamination underneath the north and south tracks was removed, and both tracks are fully operational. As of 7/11/23, surface and ground water sampling plans for the remainder of the cleanup have been approved by EPA. In addition, gravel was laid on the turnaround on East Martin Street in preparation for asphalt to help control erosion and dust. A site storm water inspection was conducted, and additional storm water controls were put into place to improve the existing storm water management plan. EPA hosted a site progress information session on 7/20/23 at the First United Presbyterian Church in East Palestine. Activities are ongoing. As of 7/31/23, Norfolk Southern offered help with indoor cleaning for homes and business for those within the one-to-two-mile Ohio-Pennsylvania evacuation zone.

CLOSED:

PEDESTRIAN STRUCK BY SEPTA TRAIN – Philadelphia County, 1/4/24 - A Southeastern Transportation Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) subway train fatally struck a pedestrian in the area of the 34th Street Station eastbound platform in the City of Philadelphia. A physical altercation between two males occurred and one of them ended up on the tracks and was struck. Train service was suspended between the 30th and 40th Street Stations for about three hours. SEPTA shuttle buses transported passengers between stations during the closure.

SCHOOL LOCKDOWN – Clinton County, 1/4/24 - The Robb Elementary School located in Lock Haven City was placed on lockdown due to a report of a male with a handgun in the area of the school. Local police crews detained a suspect and the lockdown was lifted in about an hour.

SCHOOL LOCKDOWN – Philadelphia County, 1/4/24 - Central High School, Girls High School, and Widener Memorial School were placed on lockdown in the City of Philadelphia. A 37-year-old male, who was shot in the head, was found in his car that crashed into a building at the intersection of Ognotz and Belfield Avenues near the schools. The male was transported to a local hospital and later succumbed to his injuries. The lockdowns were lifted in about an hour.

LAND SEARCH – Lycoming County, 1/4/24 – A search was conducted for a male that called 911 stating he was lost in the woods near 500 Old Barbours Road in Plunketts Creek Township. He was uninjured and off the trail. The male was located safe in about an hour and escorted from the woods.

DISASTER DECLARATIONS:

12/18/23 – The Borough of Collingdale, Delaware County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to flooding that occurred on 12/18/23.

11/22/23 – Carbon County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to an electrical power emergency that occurred on or about 11/21/23.

9/25/23 – Blawnox Borough, Allegheny County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to a water main break and damages to Freeport Road.

9/23/23 – Oxford Borough, Chester County has issued a Continuation of the Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to the multi-building structure fire on 9/13/23.

9/19/23 – Fairchance Borough, Fayette County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to a dam issue that has caused or threatens to cause injury, damage, and suffering to the persons and property of Fairchance Borough on or about 9/19/23.

9/14/23 – Northmoreland Township, Wyoming County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to flooding on 9/9/23.

9/14/23 – Factoryville Borough, Wyoming County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to flooding on 9/9/23.

9/14/23 – Oxford Borough, Chester County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to the multi-building structure fire on 9/13/23.

09/13/23 – Wyoming County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to the Flash Flooding event that occurred on 9/9/23.

9/13/23 – Clifford Township, Susquehanna County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

9/11/23 – Mehoopany Township, Wyoming County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to flooding on 8/18/23.

9/10/23 – Overfield Township, Wyoming County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to flooding on 9/9/23.

9/10/23 – Lackawanna County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to the severe thunderstorms and flooding of 9/9/23 through 9/10/23.

9/9/23 – Exeter Township, Wyoming County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to flooding on 9/9/23.

9/9/23 – Falls Township, Wyoming County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to flooding on 9/9/23.

09/06/23 – Wyoming County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to the Flash Flooding event that occurred on 8/18/23.

08/24/23 – Forest Lake Township, Susquehanna County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

08/23/23 – New Milford Township, Susquehanna County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

08/23/23 – Harford Township, Susquehanna County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

08/23/23 – Susquehanna Depot Borough, Susquehanna County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

08/19/23 - Forkston Township, Wyoming County has issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

08/18/23 – Rush Township, Susquehanna County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

08/18/23 – Susquehanna County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/18/23.

8/14/23 – Plum Borough, Allegheny County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to a house explosion on 8/13/23.

8/9/23 – Concord Township, Delaware County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/7/23.

8/8/23 – Chadds Ford Township, Delaware County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/7/23. It was renewed for another seven days on 8/14/23.

8/8/23 – York County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather on 8/7/23.

7/24/23 – Forks Township, Northampton County, issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to flooding on 7/16/23.

7/17/23 - Washington Township, Northampton County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to flooding on 7/16/23.

7/17/23 – Bucks County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency for adverse weather on 7/16/23.

6/28/23 - U.S. Small Business Administration issued a notice of an Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) declaration, #17973 for the R.M. Palmer Company Factory Explosion that occurred on 3/24/23. The primary county affected is Berks, and the contiguous counties affected are Chester, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Montgomery, and Schuylkill. The loan application deadline date is 3/28/24.

6/16/23 – West Caln Township, Chester County issued a Declaration of Disaster Emergency due to adverse weather and storm damage throughout the township on 6/16/23.

6/12/23 - Governor Josh Shapiro issued a proclamation of disaster emergency for Philadelphia County in response to the I-95 fire and collapse on 6/11/23. The governor's proclamation makes \$7 million of state funds immediately available for the reconstruction of the roadway and authorizes the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Transportation, and the Pennsylvania State Police to use all available resources and personnel, as necessary. This proclamation will remain in place for 21 days, unless extended by the Legislature.

9/10/21 - The Honorable Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, requested a major disaster declaration from the President through the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide additional support for state, county and municipal governments, and individuals affected by the remnants of Hurricane IDA between 8/31/21 and 9/5/21. The declaration includes Individual Assistance to individuals and households in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia, and York counties, and assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program in all areas of the Commonwealth. Public Assistance is under review. The President approved the declaration on 9/10/21 under Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-4618-DR. 9/24/21 – Amendment No. 1 designates Bedford and Northampton counties for Individual Assistance. 10/8/21 – Amendment No. 2 designates Bucks, Chester, and Montgomery counties for Public Assistance (already designated for Individual Assistance). 10/14/21 – Amendment No. 3 designates Bedford, Philadelphia, and York counties for Public Assistance (already designated for Individual Assistance). Plus, Fulton, Huntingdon, Luzerne, and Schuylkill counties for Public Assistance. 10/20/21 – Amendment No. 4 designates Delaware County for Public Assistance (already designated for Individual Assistance), and Dauphin County for Public Assistance.

8/31/21 - The Honorable Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, signed a statewide Proclamation of Disaster Emergency on 8/31/21 in response to severe weather event Hurricane Ida that impacted the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania causing widespread threats of serious flash and riverine flooding and other adverse impacts throughout the Commonwealth.

3/30/20 - Governor Tom Wolf requested a major disaster declaration from the President through the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide additional support for state, county and municipal governments and certain nonprofits, as well as individuals who are struggling during the COVID-19 outbreak. The request for a major disaster declaration will provide the same emergency protective measures available under the nationwide emergency proclamation; the following Individual Assistance programs: Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Crisis Counseling, Community Disaster Loans, and the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Program; and Statewide Hazard Mitigation. The President approved the declaration on 3/30/20 under Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-4506-DR.

3/13/20 – An Emergency Declaration for Public Assistance Emergency Protective Measures was issued on March 13, 2020, for all Pennsylvania counties to cover eligible costs that are directly associated with the Emergency Protective Measures being taken to respond to and protect the residents of Pennsylvania from the COVID-19 virus. The designation is EM-3441.

11/27/18 – A Major Disaster Declaration was declared on 11/27/18 for severe storms and flooding that occurred 8/10/18 – 8/15/18. Public Assistance (Cat A-G) was approved for Bradford, Columbia, Lackawanna, Lycoming, Montour, Northampton, Schuylkill, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, and Wyoming counties. In addition, all areas in the Commonwealth of

Pennsylvania are eligible for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The designation is FEMA-4408-DR.

12/2/16 – A Major Disaster Declaration for Public Assistance (Cat A-G) was declared on December 2, 2016, for Bradford, Centre, Lycoming, and Sullivan counties. In addition, all areas in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are eligible for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The designation is FEMA-4292-DR.

CONTIGUOUS STATE EVENTS OF POTENTIAL INTEREST TO PENNSYLVANIA:

Delaware:	Normal Operations
Maryland:	Enhanced Watch – Winter Weather
New Jersey:	Normal Operations
New York:	Normal Operations
Ohio:	Normal Operations
West Virginia:	Normal Operations

24-Hour Projected Weather Statewide:

National Weather Service, 0519 hours, 1/5/24

Today will be partly to mostly sunny and seasonable, with high temperatures in the 30s. Clouds over the northern half of the Commonwealth this morning will dissipate, but high clouds will increase starting tonight ahead of a snowstorm that will impact Pennsylvania on Saturday. Low temperatures overnight on Friday will be in the 20s.

Low-pressure will cross Virginia and the Delmarva Peninsula before heading out to sea on Saturday. A widespread snowfall event is expected across most of the Commonwealth, starting Saturday morning in the southern mountains and spreading to the north and east throughout the day. The heaviest snow should fall in the ridge and valley regions and will impact the Poconos in the afternoon and evening hours. The lightest snow will be across the western quarter of the state. Some light snow will linger into Sunday morning. High temperatures on Saturday and Sunday will again be in the 30s.

Another storm is forecast to impact the Commonwealth next Tuesday into Wednesday with mixed precipitation, strong winds, and heavy rain, which could result in flooding.

WATCHES AND WARNINGS:

A Winter Storm Watch has been issued until 1000 hours on 1/7/23 for the following counties: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lebanon, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Schuylkill, Snyder, Sullivan, and Union.

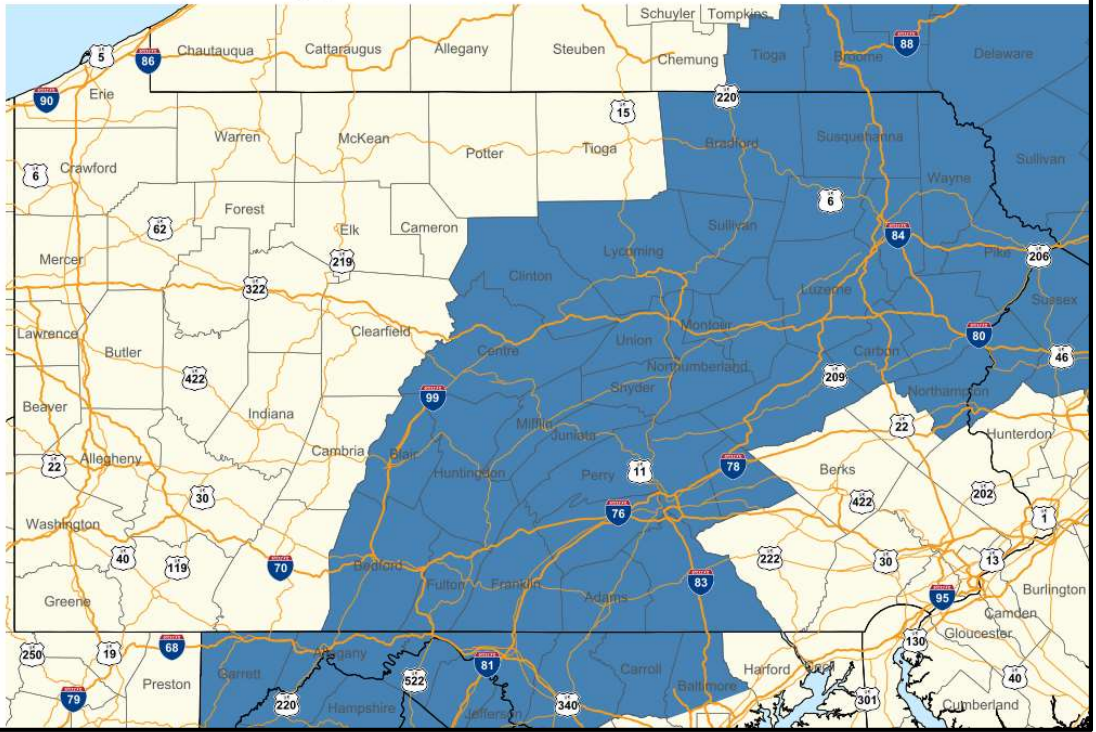
A Winter Storm Watch has been issued until 1800 hours on 1/7/23 for the following counties: Carbon, Monroe, and Northampton.

A Winter Storm Watch has been issued until 1900 hours on 1/7/23 for the following counties: Bradford, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Pike, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming, and York.



Current Watches, Warnings, and Advisories

- Small Craft Advisory
- Winter Storm Watch
- Gale Watch



Graphic Created
January 5th, 2024
5:30 AM EST