

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Copperas Cove

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City of Copperas Cove Winter Storm Uri Update #4

Copperas Cove, Texas – The State of Texas continues to be under a Statewide Disaster Declaration for all 254 Counties, and the City of Copperas Cove remains under a Declaration of Local Disaster due to extreme conditions resulting from Winter Storm Uri.

All City of Copperas Cove facilities will remain closed thru Friday, February 19th, with current anticipation of re-opening on Monday, February 22nd. Many facilities are still without power and several have sustained internal water damage due to busted pipes. Emergency services continue to operate without interruption. Essential personnel will also continue to work as they are able to monitor and work to ensure essential services are provided as best possible.

Hettie Halstead Elementary remains open as a Temporary Warming Center. There is plenty of room available for occupancy should any residents need warmth. For residents in need of transportation, you may call Copperas Cove PD at (254) 547-8222 opt. 0 and ask for assistance. Officers will assist as they are able to help get residents to the warming center:

- **CCISD's Hettie Halstead Elementary – 910 N. Main Street, Copperas Cove**

The City continues to be in communications with Oncor reference the many power outages throughout the City. Per the Oncor Area Manager during a conference call this morning, Oncor is now in restoration mode and working to make repairs to many lines in our region. Any existing outages are no longer due to 'controlled outages', rather involve lines requiring repairs as a result of the storm. The priority has been established to work on those areas who have been without service the longest. A complete power restoration timeline has yet to be provided by Oncor. More info as we know it will be posted to the City of Copperas Cove's Official Facebook page. As we are monitoring social media sites we are now aware Oncor trucks are in the various areas and power is being restored to several more areas. Find a copy of this morning's media release from Oncor here:

https://thewire.oncor.com/Pages/Article.html?fbclid=IwAR0u2uJj5dnPqJ9rCJQTauUa7p4KTsUb8HCeRNfW0ggDCgd1uFEJHC1bYpE#ONCOR_EMERGENCY_OPERATIONS_FEB_18_UPDATE

Freezing conditions continue to exist and streets are being evaluated and addressed as crews are able; at this point we continue to be in very short supply of aggregate and are rationing as we are able to provide necessary resources. Weather conditions continue to be hazardous however temperatures are expected to be above freezing tomorrow and into the weekend. Various streets throughout the City are still marked with barricades and deemed

unsafe to traverse; please use caution when driving in these areas. TxDOT and the City encourage all citizens to stay off the streets unless absolutely necessary.

Solid Waste has created a plan in anticipation of restoring collection operations as early tomorrow, February 19th, weather and street conditions permitting. Customers will not be charged a fee for overloaded containers, however please ensure sufficient space is left around the containers for adequate tipping. Schedule for the next few days is as follows:

Friday, February 19th:

- Collection point will be established at Town Square parking lot from 10am to 4pm for any residents needing to dispose of bagged household trash.
- Commercial trash collections will begin at 12pm and run throughout the day.

Saturday, February 20th:

- Residential trash collections will begin at 9am and run throughout the day for Areas 7 and 8, followed by Areas 5 and 6. The area map may be located here for reference: https://www.copperascovetx.gov/files/solid_waste/sw_map.pdf
- Commercial trash collections will resume as well if necessary.

Monday, February 22nd:

- Regular services are expected to resume on the standard schedule.

Water Distribution operations continue to be stressed however we are in a slightly better position than yesterday. Various factors contribute to the lost pressure, to include reduced water supply coming in from the City's water provider Bell County WCID #1 which in turn decreased volume and pressure in the main lines, the topography of the City which requires water to be 'pushed up' to Mountain Top Storage Tank by pressure, as well as storage tanks freezing from the outside due to power outages. ****The Boil Water Notice issued last evening for those residents in the Mountain Top Pressure Plain remains in effect.**

The Central and Rattlesnake Pressure Plains are currently at or near 60% capacity and still have substantial pressure, explaining why some residents have water while others do not. These areas are unable to support those residents in the Mountain Top Pressure Plain. The City's recommendation for all customers who have water is to use moderately and open cabinets to provide more warmth for pipes. For those residents experiencing loss of water, the City's recommendation is to leave interior faucets partially open to help the system along once it is pressurized to help push any ice thru the system. Please note we have not, nor will not, purposely turn off water to any residents.

Sewer and Wastewater operations are recovering and operational at this time.

Municipal Court scheduled hearings and appearances have been postponed. Anyone having a summons to report should disregard and await further notice.

Utility Administration online and pay by phone options remain available, as internet and phone lines remain active. Any penalties/late fees resulting from this event will not be assessed.

Emergency notifications continue to be distributed to our residents via the CodeRED Emergency Notification System. Citizens not yet registered may enroll at this link: <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/BF83F34F056B>.

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