



For more information contact: Lori Getter, Crisis Communications Manager  
(608) 516-0293

**For Immediate Release**  
March 22, 2016

## Spring Snowstorm to March into Wisconsin Heavy wet snow could cause difficult travel conditions

(MADISON) – A major winter storm is expected to hit most of Wisconsin in the next 48 hours that could impact statewide travel. The National Weather Service has issued a Winter Storm Watch for many counties as forecasters say some areas in central Wisconsin could receive up to a foot of snow.

A large mid-section of the state is expected to receive 8 to 12 inches of snow. Lesser amounts are expected in the north and extreme south. Rain, sleet and snow mixture will begin tomorrow morning turning into all snow by Thursday. Strong winds will also limit visibility and may cause hazardous road conditions.

Travel won't be the only challenge. The snow is expected to be heavy and wet which can be dangerous to those suffering from heart disease or other illnesses. The heavy snow can put added strain on the heart. In addition, bending or lifting the heavy snow can cause back injuries.

If using a snow blower, be sure to stop the engine if the snow becomes jammed in the snow blower. Use a solid object such as a stick to remove the snow or debris from the chute. Never use your hands.

ReadyWisconsin offers these suggestions to keep safe during this storm:

- **If you plan to travel** allow plenty of extra time for your trip. Also keep at least a half tank of gas in your vehicle and inform friends and family of your travel plans and approximate arrival time.
- **Check the roads before you travel.** The Wisconsin Department of Transportation advises travelers check road conditions before leaving home by calling 5-1-1 or visiting [www.511wi.gov](http://www.511wi.gov).
- Have an **emergency winter weather survival kit** in your vehicle. Your kit should include water, snack food such as energy bars or raisins, blankets, first aid kit and booster cables. If you have a cell phone make sure you have a power adapter you can plug into the lighter. You can find more kit tips at ReadyWisconsin: <http://readywisconsin.wi.gov/winter/HowToMakeAKit.asp>

**Stay informed.** ReadyWisconsin will keep you posted on any emergencies that occur during the storm. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

ReadyWisconsin is a campaign from Wisconsin Emergency Management with a mission to prepare individuals, families and businesses for emergencies and disasters. For additional winter safety tips, visit <http://ReadyWisconsin.wi.gov> or follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/ReadyWisconsin](http://www.facebook.com/ReadyWisconsin)), Twitter ([www.twitter.com/ReadyWisconsin](http://www.twitter.com/ReadyWisconsin)) and Instagram ([www.instagram.com/ReadyWisconsin](http://www.instagram.com/ReadyWisconsin)).

###