

Winter Storm Watch Issued for Lee County

The National Weather Service (Austin/San Antonio office) has issued an **Extreme Cold Warning** for Lee County and surrounding areas, effective from 6 p.m. Saturday (January 24) through 12 p.m. Monday (January 26). A **Winter Weather Warning** will also be in effect.

Timeline for Lee County:

- Arctic cold front arrives late Friday into Saturday morning bringing falling temperatures.
- Wintry precipitation (freezing rain and sleet) expected to begin Saturday morning (January 24), continuing through Saturday and into Sunday.
- Light to moderate ice and sleet accumulations are possible, especially on elevated surfaces like bridges and overpasses.
- Hazardous travel conditions likely due to slick roads.
- Power outages possible from ice accumulation on lines and tree limbs.
- Extremely cold temperatures arrive Saturday night and persist through Monday morning, with lows in the teens (or lower) and wind chills well below zero—posing risks to exposed individuals, unprotected pipes, and livestock.

Recommended Actions:

- **For medical emergencies, dial 9-1-1.**
- Delay non-essential travel through the weekend if possible.
- If travel is necessary, drive cautiously, allow extra following distance, and carry an emergency kit (blankets, extra clothing, water, flashlight, shovel, booster cables, first aid supplies, food/snacks).
- Prepare your home: Insulate and protect pipes (consider dripping faucets), bring pets and livestock into sheltered areas, and check on neighbors, especially the elderly or those with medical needs.
- Stay informed: Monitor updates at weather.gov/ewx (NWS Austin/San Antonio) and local alerts from Lee County Emergency Management.
- Report power outages by phone to Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative at (800) 949-4414. Monitor the Bluebonnet Electric Outage Map at <https://outage.bluebonnetelectric.coop/>.

Important Phone Numbers:

- Lee County Sheriff's Office (979) 542-2800,
- Giddings Police Department at (979) 540-2700
- Lexington Police Department at (979) 773-4844

Lee County officials are monitoring the situation closely and will provide updates as conditions develop. Your safety is the priority—please take steps now to prepare.

For the latest information, visit the National Weather Service website or follow Lee County Emergency Management on Facebook.

Stay safe and look out for one another.