

### **TA Report 2.8.13**

BIG STORM NEMO information from MEMA

## **Winter Snowstorm/Blizzard February 8-9, 2013**

Update as of 1300 (100 PM) on Friday, February 8th

A significant snowstorm/blizzard is forecasted to impact Massachusetts beginning on Friday February 8th, lasting into Saturday February 9th. Snowfall across much of Massachusetts is expected to be approximately 1-2 feet with locally higher amounts.

**A ban on motor vehicle travel has been issued beginning at 4:00 PM today (Friday 2/8) until further notice. There are exceptions for public safety vehicles and public safety workers, including contract personnel; public works vehicles and public works workers, including contract personnel; government officials conducting official business; utility company vehicles and utility workers; healthcare workers who must travel to and from work in order to provide essential health services; news media; travel necessary to maintain and deliver critical private sector services such as energy, fuel supplies and delivery, financial systems and the delivery of critical commodities; travel to support business operations that provide critical services to the public, including gasoline stations, food stores and hardware stores.**

A State of Emergency was declared today as of noon (1200pm). [State of Emergency Declaration 020813](#)

[-MEMA Winter Weather Tips and Information](#)

-Download the FREE [Ping4alerts!](#) app to get information on your smartphone (iPhone and Android devices)

-For non-emergency assistance and information, call 2-1-1 or visit [www.mass211.org](http://www.mass211.org)

-Visit [www.mbta.com](http://www.mbta.com) for bus, subway and commuter rail service alerts and [www.massport.com](http://www.massport.com) for Logan Airport information

-Other preparedness tips

Monitor the progress of the storm – timing and areas of greatest impact can change.

Listen to directions of Public Officials.

Have a full tank of gas. Gas stations may be impacted by power loss.

Prepare for extended power outages. Have emergency kit with flashlights, extra batteries, portable radio, bottled water, non-perishable food, first aid kit, etc.

Check the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

Have sufficient heating fuel. If using emergency generator, understand how to run it safely, operating it outdoors away from any open window.

If your water supply could be affected by a power outage, (well-water pump system), fill your bathtub and spare containers with water.

Set your refrigerator and freezer to their coldest settings and minimize opening the door. Food can stay cold in a full refrigerator for up to 24 hours; a freezer for 48 hours.

Restoration of power will not begin until the storm subsides and conditions are safe for utility workers.

Be a good neighbor. Check on elderly relatives and neighbors.

Treat any downed wire as a 'live' wire.

*(end of MEMA information, beginning of TA information here)*

**Regionalization School District Planning Board**

**EDUCATIONAL AND FINANCIAL CONSULTANTS REPORT is available on line at**

**<http://www.RegionalSchoolPlanning.info>**

Regionalization Analysts, Malcolm Reid and Marc Abrahams presented their findings on Educational and Financial Impacts of the four towns forming either a new pre-K-6 Region or a pre-K-12 Region in a public session last Saturday, 2/2/13. Copies of the report are available at the library and town hall. I encourage you to review the materials and come to a townwide forum to be held Wednesday, February 27, at the elementary school, at 6:30pm. If you have any questions please call and ask questions.

The Amherst Region current budget crisis at the region underscores one driving motivation for exploring regionalization. Our current regional school system has been eroding year after year with state cuts and level funding of state education aid. Cost of services is driven up by healthcare costs and federal and state unfunded mandate. Does regionalization pre-K-6 or pre-k-12 create the potential for financial sustainability?

Come Wednesday 2/27, at 6:30pm to learn more.

### **WIREDWEST Update**

Are you interested in counting telephone poles in town? I need a few dedicated volunteers to fill out verification worksheets for the utility poles in town. If you are interested in helping with this project for WiredWest please contact me through email or phone. Thank you- Becky, [townadmin@shutesbury.org](mailto:townadmin@shutesbury.org) or 259-1214.

New in town? Would you like to see fiber optic cable to every home in Shutesbury? Which will create dramatically improved internet service? Go online to [WiredWest.com](http://WiredWest.com) and hit the link in the right hand corner. Fill in the support card for Shutesbury. Thank you.

### **ADD YOUR NAME TO THE TOWNWIDE EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM**

The town has a system for automatically contacting residents in case of emergencies. To read more and enter your contact information, see the [Fire Department page](#).

### **2 COMPOSTERS AVAILABLE AT TOWN HALL**

The Town Recycling Committee provides composters to town residents at a (grant supported) subsidized price of \$20. They are black magic! Watch your compost grow.

**Becky Torres, Shutesbury Town Administrator, [townadmin@shutesbury.org](mailto:townadmin@shutesbury.org) 259-1214**

