

Media Advisory – Jan. 6, 2009

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Snowstorm damages due to DEM by Thursday, Jan. 8

Damages from snow, ice and winds occurring between Dec. 13 and 26, 2008, need to be reported to the Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management (DEM) by 5 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8.

The damage assessments from residents, businesses, farmers and government agencies will be used to determine and justify the need for possible state and/or federal assistance.

Repeated near-record snow storms and record cold temperatures caused assorted damages and impacts throughout Snohomish County.

DEM has collected information on more than \$8.5 million in damages, with the majority coming from public agencies. The Snohomish County Public Utility District's initial estimate totals about \$6.5 million in damages and repairs to utility infrastructure. Reports from Snohomish County Public Works signal another \$1.5 million in damages to public roads and infrastructure.

The remainder is from reported damages to individual residences, businesses and farms. However, some damages may not be eligible for any assistance that might be made available.

With the potential for flooding this week, it is important to keep damages from different events separate.

Residential, agricultural and business damages can be reported by calling the DEM office at 425-388-5060 or by filling out and returning a damage-assessment form found at www.snoco.org/departments/emergency_management.

Individuals must to provide an address where the damage occurred, the amount and type of damage, primary and secondary insurance information as well as deductible amounts. All damages should be documented with photographs if possible. Damages also should be reported to private insurance providers.

Farmers should also report all damages and losses to the Farm Service Agency by calling 425-335-5634, extension 2.

Snohomish County departments, municipalities and public agencies should complete and return PA-1/2 forms to the county DEM.

DEM staff is available 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday, to assist or answer questions. They can be reached at 425-388-5060.

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