

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- February 21, 2021

Sunday, February 21, 2021 Winter Weather Update

NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS -- The City of Nacogdoches and Nacogdoches County will transition into the recovery phase of the winter storms event, moving to one update a day. Please share the following information with others as you are able.

Electric Supply

As of Sunday morning, Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative (DETEC) reports 4,553 outages in Nacogdoches county. Improved weather conditions and support from out-of-state crews have allowed for significant progress, though a specific restoration timeline is still unavailable. Oncor has 5,684 county outages but expects a majority of its connections to be restored today.

Persons are reminded to use caution when operating alternate sources of heat and energy. Generators should only be used outside, at least 20 feet from your home. Stay clear of downed power lines and report those to dispatch at alldispatch@nactx.us.

Customers must report power outages to their applicable electric company. Power outages reported to dispatch will not be passed on to the electrical companies.

- Deep East Texas Electric: 800-392-5986
- Oncor: 888-313-4747, online at <https://stormcenter.oncor.com>, text OUT to 66267, or through the MyOncor Mobile App

Water Supply

City of Nacogdoches water is now at reasonable pressures to all city meters. Fire hydrants will continue to be flushed to clear lines of air and impurities, and water samples will be taken at different locations in the system throughout the day to reevaluate the current boil water notice. **A boil water notice remains in effect until formally rescinded.** Bring water to a rolling boil, and boil water for two minutes before consuming in any form.

If you do not have any water, it is possible that the meter has been shut off at the curb. Please check the meter and turn it on. If you have a water leak, quickly turn off the water at the meter. For assistance, call 936-559-2900.

Some water supply corporations (WSC) in the county are struggling with energy supply issues. The county has partnered with their applicable power companies and fuel suppliers to get WSC back online. It remains important to conserve water for those not on City of Nacogdoches water (e.g. not running washing machines or dishwashers and limiting showers to five minutes or less).

City Permits/Inspections

The City Inspections office is open for online and phone-in permits today, Sunday, Feb 21 from 10am-7pm. Permits may be obtained by calling 936-559-2521 or online at nactx.us. The local disaster declaration has waived permit and inspection fees for necessary storm repair. Residents are urged to utilize licensed contractors only and be aware of out-of-town unlicensed predatory contractors.

Relief Assistance

Residents of Nacogdoches County who do not have insurance and whose homes were affected by the winter storms may qualify for disaster assistance through FEMA. Apply online at <http://disasterassistance.gov> or call 1-800-621-3362. FEMA programs do not pay for fuel or cover food losses due to power failure.

The Nacogdoches Area United Way has established a local recovery fund, distributing donations to area non-profits dedicated to disaster relief. Visit unitedwaynac.org or call (936) 564-5869 to make a donation.

Roads and Vehicles

Due to a water main break in North Street near MedPost Urgent Care, southbound traffic on North Street will be detoured east and west on Starr Avenue beginning around 6 PM and lasting through the overnight hours while the repair is made. Southbound traffic on North Street can resume at Lewis Street. Northbound traffic on North Street heading into this area will be restricted to one lane beginning around Lewis Street. Drivers utilizing this route should be aware that delays are possible and should allow extra time to reach their destination. Alternate routes are encouraged.

School & Government Openings

Nacogdoches ISD will return to virtual instruction on Monday, Feb 22 and Tuesday, Feb. 23 while their staff assesses damages to campuses. Central Heights, Douglass, Garrison, and Woden ISDs will be closed Monday due to power and water uncertainties; all classes and campus activities at Chireno ISD are cancelled for the week of Monday, Feb 22 through Friday, Feb 26. Students should check with their schools for the most up-to-date information.

County offices and most City facilities, including sanitation services, will open on Monday for normal business hours. The Nacogdoches Recreation Center will remain closed on Monday, February 22nd but the Nacogdoches Public Library will open.

Communication

Contact 936-559-2900 for questions regarding water and water leaks. To report fallen trees, limbs, downed power lines, and blocked roadways email alldispatch@nactx.us. City of Nacogdoches residents are strongly encouraged to sign up for NacWise alerts by visiting nactx.us/nacwise.