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Local
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Bernalillo County East Mountain and Canyon Areas

Emergency Road and Winter Operation Procedures 2015

Important Contact Information

Priority of Roads for Winter Snow Removal

NMDOT, Tijeras Area:

- I-40 from Carnuel to Bernalillo County line
- Old Route 66 (NM 333) from Clovis Lane (mile post 3.2) to Junction NM 217
- NM 14 from Old Route 66 (NM 333) to Santa Fe County line
- NM 337 from Bernalillo/Torrance County line to Old Route 66 (NM 333)
- NM 217 from Camino Yrisarri to I-40 center lane (mile post 10.6)
- NM 536 from NM 14 to Sandia Crest (mile post 13.3)

Bernalillo County, East Mountain Area:

- **North Mountain**
 - Frost Road, Vallecitos Meadow and Mountain Valley loop
 - Sedillo Hill Road
 - All other residential roads with focus on main accesses to state roads
- **South Mountain**
 - Canyon roads off Old Route 66 (NM 333)
 - Main accesses to state roads

NEW MEXICO ROADS New Mexico

Department of Transportation (NMDOT)

Road Advisory Hotline: **Call 511**

<http://nmroads.com/> to see
the most updated road conditions and to
sign-up for email/text alerts

Download the mobile app at
<http://m.nmroads.com/>

For information about NMDOT snow removal
schedules, call **(505) 222-6590**

COUNTY ROADS

Bernalillo County (unincorporated areas, outside of the city)

Call **(505) 848-1503**

for status reports about county roads or
to submit a county road request

CITY ROADS

City of Albuquerque Call 311

for status reports about city roads or
to submit a city road request

WHEN ROAD CLOSURES HAPPEN

WHY THEY HAPPEN

- Worsening weather, possible life-threatening road conditions, or crashes related to weather conditions are often the reasons that lead the NM State Police to authorize road closure(s).
- The NM State Police is the **ONLY** agency that can authorize road closures for I-40, Old Route 66, North 14, Pass 337, Pass 217, and Pass 536. No other state or local government agency has the authority to do so.
- Any first responding agency can call for a road closure and begin diverting traffic.

HOW THEY HAPPEN

- Once the NM State Police authorizes a road closure, that directive is communicated to the NM Department of Transportation (NMDOT).
- NMDOT, in turn, contacts the State Highway Department, Albuquerque Police Department and the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department communication centers, stating where the road closure will be.
- As best possible, a re-opening time for the road closure is also given.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Suitable turnaround points will be located in the area of the affected road and the NM State Police will coordinate with NMDOT to keep them clear and open for drivers.
- If Old Route 66 is open, eastbound travelers should access Central Ave. from the exits prior to Tramway Blvd. This will help to alleviate congestion at the Tramway Blvd. exit. Old Route 66 will be utilized by East Mountain residents so that they have access back and forth to their residences.
- Drivers and residents are asked to remain calm and to be patient during these situations. Please be flexible and understanding as the state agencies respond to the current conditions.

PROCEDURE REMINDERS

- The NM State Police **WILL NOT** close the canyon at Tramway Blvd. **IF** the closure is due to weather conditions out-of-state or at Santa Rosa, NM.
- They will begin the closure at Moriarty, while simultaneously encouraging semi-trucks in Albuquerque to begin exiting early to staging sites such as the fairgrounds, UNM and Balloon Fiesta Park.
- Working west from Moriarty, they will have semi-trucks turn around at Zuzax, Tijeras and then Tramway Blvd.
- This is to minimize the impact to East Mountain residents.

BE PREPARED FOR A ROAD CLOSURE

When Sheltering in Place Becomes Necessary

IN YOUR VEHICLE

Pack an Emergency Winter Car Kit

- Wool blanket, extra hat and gloves.
- Jumper cables.
- Water in small bottles (easier to thaw if frozen).
- Food – Such as protein/candy/granola bars. They should be high in calories and ready-to-eat.
- Extra cell phone batteries or charger.

Prepare Your Vehicle and Yourself

- Winterize your car and keep it well maintained.
- Always travel with at least half of a tank of gas.
- Never leave your home without a charged cell phone.
- Check the weather before you travel.
- Check the road conditions. NMDOT provides traffic and road conditions, call 511, free of charge.
- Tell someone your route, and when you are expected to arrive.
- Know where you are going and avoid unfamiliar routes during inclement weather.

IN YOUR HOME

- At a minimum, your winter preparedness should include extra food, blankets, warm clothing and water for each member of your household. Experts generally recommend you keep three to five days worth of supplies on hand for winter emergencies.
- Emergency food should be non-perishable.
- Sufficient heating fuel. Store a good supply of dry, seasoned wood for your fireplace or wood-burning stove.
- Learn how to shut off water valves.
- Include an LED lantern and flashlights.
- Test all battery-powered devices.
- Assemble a snow and ice removal kit:
 - stockpile kitty litter or sand to increase traction;
 - rock salt to melt ice on walkways; and
 - snow shovels to remove snow,
- When it's a long-term period (more than 24 hours) tune in to the county's emergency radio frequency, **1670 AM**, for updates and important information.