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To promote and protect the health and well-being of Kings County residents through education, prevention, and intervention.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Extreme Cold Temperatures to Impact Kings County

HANFORD – The Kings County Department of Public Health (KCDPH) and Office of Emergency Services (OES) have received confirmation from the California State Warning Center of extreme cold temperatures that will affect Kings County and are expected to last through Monday, December 19, 2022.

According to the National Weather Service, sub-freezing temperatures are possible for a period of three to five hours between 2 AM PST and 8 AM PST each night and early morning through Monday, December 19, 2022. Frost and freeze conditions can damage or kill crops, other sensitive vegetation, and possibly damage unprotected outdoor plumbing.

Individuals who are unhoused, older adults, children and those with access and functional needs are encouraged by KCDPH to move to their nearest shelter if possible. For warming places, Kings County residents can call 211 or visit: <https://www.211kingscounty.org/housing/warming-cooling-centers>

Kings County Department of Public Health recommends that individuals protect themselves from extreme cold temperatures by practicing the following steps:

- Drive slowly and be on the look out for hazardous road conditions including slick pavement, fog, and possible ponding on roads and freeway off-ramps.
- Avoid being outside during the coldest part of the day or for extended periods of time in extreme cold weather.
- Dress in layers, wear a hat, scarf, gloves or mittens, and waterproof, insulated boots to avoid hypothermia or frostbite.
- Get out of wet clothes as soon as possible to reduce the risk of hypothermia.
- Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water with electrolytes.
- Avoid excessive consumption of alcohol and non-prescription medication if you will be staying outside as it may lead to death or serious injury.
- Seek medical attention immediately and call 911 if you see someone experiencing hypothermia.

Additional information regarding combating extreme cold temperatures may be found at: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/EPO/Pages/ExtremeCold.aspx> and <https://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>