



Texas Gulf Coast Regional
Voluntary Organizations
Active in Disaster

COOPERATION | COMMUNICATION | COORDINATION | COLLABORATION

SITUATION BRIEF **11 JANUARY 2024**

MAINTAINING ALERT LEVEL 3 – SITUATIONAL AWARENESS FOR WINTER STORM FINN



Houston, January 11, TGCROAD will maintain its activation level at Alert Level 3 – Situational Awareness. While Winter Storm Finn did not result in the TGCROAD receiving any RFAs (Requests for Assistance), we are now focused on the potential for a hard freeze associated with Winter Storm Gerri early next week.

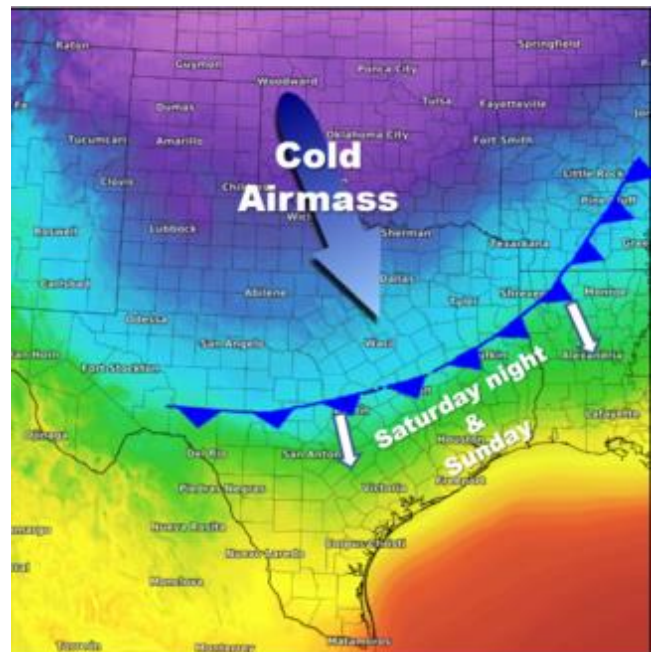
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

According to the NWS, an arctic cold front will move through the area late Saturday night and early Sunday. Hard freezes (temperatures less than 24°) will threaten many parts of Southeast Texas Sunday night through Tuesday night.

We should expect some long durations of sub-freezing temperatures. Bitterly cold chills are also anticipated.

Chances for light, freezing rain, or drizzle are currently low. The NWS forecasts a slight possibility of precipitation for parts of the area on Sunday night or Monday.

Residents should ideally complete weather preparations before sunset on Saturday.



SPACE CITY WEATHER

Space City Weather has published an article on the upcoming freeze: **[Arctic air is coming to Texas, possibly as early as Sunday morning - January 11, 2024 at 7:23 am by Eric Berger.](#)**

They point out the uncertainties inherent in the model's ability to forecast the timing of the arrival of the colder area and share that some models have the cold area arriving as early as Sunday morning. Many areas on the north side of our service area could see freezing temperatures on Sunday night, and our entire area will experience bitter cold nights on Monday and Tuesday. Brisk winds will mean that the "feels like" the temperature will be even colder.

COLD WEATHER PREPAREDNESS

Remember the 4Ps – People, Pipes, Pets, and Plants

People

Learn the signs of hypothermia and frostbite. Ensure extra blankets and layers are ready if the power goes out. Road conditions may be treacherous, so have water and food supplies ready. Check in with your elderly family and neighbors to see if they need help. If you use a space heater, Observe the Three-Foot rule for space heaters (Avoid placing a space heater within 3 feet of anything flammable (curtains, papers, furniture, pillows, and bedding, for example.)

Stay Alert! - Be sure to check in with the latest forecasts.

Pipes

Before Freezing Weather - Wrap exposed pipes outside or in unheated areas of your home. Remove garden hoses connected to outside faucets, turn off sprinkler systems, and make sure they are not broken.

In Freezing Weather - Open cabinet doors under sinks next to outside walls to let warmer air help prevent the pipes from freezing. In unheated garages, shut off water to washing machines. Take extra precautions to protect pipes that have frozen in the past.

Not Going to Be Home? Drain outside water faucets or leave the home heating system on low.

Know how to turn off your water and be prepared to help neighbors who may have difficulty during the freeze.

Pets

As freezing temperatures approach, remember: if it's not safe for you, it's not safe for them! Bring your pets indoors, if possible, during periods of severe weather and cold temperatures.

Plants

Know the temperature thresholds of your plants. Cover your plants before the cold weather sets in to help retain some heat.

ACTIONS

TGCRVOAD:

- The TGCRVOAD will continue to monitor the weather.
- No Response Coordination Calls are scheduled or anticipated at this time. If we receive a request for assistance, we will activate the TGCRVOAD and may schedule response coordination calls.
- We will publish information on our website ([Winter Storm Gerri](#)) as we receive it from our partners. If you receive information you would like us to share, please contact the TGCRVOAD at chair.tgcrvoad@icloud.com

MEMBERS:

- Members should monitor the weather at the NWS Houston/Galveston Forecast office. (<https://www.weather.gov/hgx/>), and Space City Weather (<https://spacecityweather.com/>). Please be aware that forecasts are just that, and are subject to change.
- You should have multiple ways of receiving warnings.
- Any Members needing to activate the TGCRVOAD should contact TGCRVOAD as soon as possible at chair.tgcrvoad@icloud.com.