

1620 12th Avenue, Suite 205 Seattle, Washington 98122 206 329-7303 www.capitolhillhousing.org

February 8, 2019

Dear CHH Residents,

As most of you are aware, there is currently a Winter Storm Watch in effect. It is expected that we may see a fair amount of accumulation over the weekend, and that next week may continue to see snowfall. For those of you familiar with the Puget Sound area, and as we all witnessed with the small amounts of snow we saw early this week, you likely know how unprepared the city can be for snow and ice.

We believe we have obtained enough ice melt the to keep our apartment communities as safe as possible through the weekend and have more which we expect to have delivered Monday.

Many of our communities have team members who either live on site or within walking distance, and we anticipate having them available to help out as needed between now and Monday.

Please understand that while we are doing everything in our power to ensure we have ice melt down and sidewalks and pathways clear, it may be impossible for us to keep up with the weather conditions or, for those of us who live further out, to even make it into Seattle at all. We are working with a local landscape contractor to help fill in the gaps at sites we know will be harder for our teams to reach.

Please take a few minutes to review page 2 for tips on how to be best prepared for the storm over the next week.

Thank you all for your patience as support as we do everything possible to help keep our residents and communities as safe as possible!

Sincerely,

**Terra Walsh** | Associate Director of Property Management Capitol Hill Housing 1620 12th Avenue, Suite 205 Seattle, WA 98122 206 329-7303

## Winter Weather and Storm Tips, Road Tips, More...

- <u>Use extreme caution</u> when leaving your home. Floors may be wet as people come in with snow on their shoes and pant legs. Walkways may be slippery with snow, ice and black ice.
- The storm is anticipated to impact over <u>3 million people</u> in Western Washington.
- CHH will have no control over power outages. Our Emergency Maintenance team will not be able to resolve or assist with a power outage. See below for more info on outages.
- Emergency weather situations can be challenging and stressful for everyone. Try to be extra kind and neighborly and check in on neighbors if you're able.
- Stay indoors during the storm!
- For the latest road conditions in Western Washington, call 5-1-1
- Have an emergency kit on hand that includes a flashlight with batteries. Also consider having glow-in-the-dark stick lights, wind-up clock, portable radio, manual can opener and mylar blanket.
- Stock drinking water (one gallon per person per day), dry and canned food, first aid materials, prescribed medications and additional blankets.
- If you live in a controlled access building, know which exit door to use during an outage. Also remember that transients may be even more determined than ever to gain access to a warmer place to sleep. Your building access is only as controlled as you make it.
- Drive carefully on icy sidewalks and roads.
  - o Many injuries and accidents are caused by slippery conditions.
- Before driving, let someone know your destination, route, and expected time of arrival.
  - o If your car gets stuck, it'll be easier to find you.
- If you lose feeling and color in your nose, ears, hands, or feet, cover the exposed area, avoid rubbing your skin, and seek medical help immediately.
  - You may have frostbite.
- When shoveling snow, take breaks and lift lighter loads.
  - Working too hard can lead to heart attacks.
- Stay dry.
  - o Wet clothes make you lose body heat, increasing your risk of hypothermia.

## **During a Power Outage**

- To report an outage or get an update, Seattle City Light customers can call 206.684.7400 (recorded message).
  PSE customers can call 888.225.5773.
- Dress in layers to conserve body heat.
- Do not use candles as a light source nor any open flame as a heat source.
- Do not use charcoal briquettes indoors.
- Close doors, windows, and curtains to keep heat from escaping.
- Keep refrigerator and freezer closed as much as possible to keep food fresh. A full refrigerator will maintain safe temperatures for up to six hours; a full freezer for up to two days. Discard at-risk refrigerated foods that are warmer than 45 degrees F. If in doubt, throw it out.
- Use hot water sparingly. Most hot water tanks will retain heat for up to 24 hours.
- Switch electrical appliances off when the power goes out to prevent fires and equipment damage during prolonged outages. Leave one or two lights on to let you know when service is restored.
- When power is restored, turn on electrical appliances gradually. Sudden heavy consumption can damage the electrical system and extend the outage.