

Montgomery County, Maryland



Extreme Temperature Plan

For Official Use Only (FOUO)

June 26, 2025

Office of Emergency Management & Homeland Security



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I. Introduction

a. Purpose

The Montgomery County Government, through the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), and with the guidance and assistance of the Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (OEMHS), will activate the Montgomery County Extreme Temperature Plan when a cold or heat emergency occurs. The purpose of the Extreme Temperature Plan is to minimize the effects of extreme cold or hot weather to all residents, workers, and visitors. The Extreme Temperature Plan is not a substitute for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards. Employers and Employees must comply with all applicable OSHA standards.

II. Monitoring

OEMHS will monitor data from the National Weather Service (NWS) for the prediction or occurrence of weather conditions consistent with the alert levels defined below.

OEMHS will monitor the NWS Hourly Forecast Tabular Tables for Silver Spring & Damascus to get an overall view of temperatures and Wind Chill/ Heat Index for the entire County in making a decision to send notifications. If one geographic point meets a threshold, but the other one does not, OEMHS will monitor a third data point in Rockville to make final determination.

III. Alert Levels

Montgomery County DHHS uses the following alert definitions to begin discussions of the County's potential response during an extreme temperature situation or emergency. These are not automatic trigger points for any particular actions or responses. In most situations, a secondary emergency will predicate a response measure. The descriptions below explain the respective alerts. OEMHS will activate the alert as necessary, based on data collected by OEMHS and conversations with other agencies.

a. Extreme Cold Alert

Actual or forecasted temperature, including the wind chill factor, falls below 32°F.

b. Cold Emergency Alert

Actual or forecasted temperature, including the wind chill factor, falls below 20°F AND one or more of the following conditions:

- Snow accumulation of 3 inches or more
- A Wind Chill Advisory/Warning is issued by the National Weather Service



- Other conditions provided by NWS or threats are determined by OEMHS (e.g., large-scale power outages).

c. Extreme Heat Alert

Actual or forecasted temperature, including the heat index,

- Is above 95°F
- Other conditions provided by NWS or threats are determined by OEMHS (e.g., large-scale power outages).

d. Heat Emergency Alert

Maximum temperature including heat index is expected to be 105°F or higher AND one or more of the following conditions:

- For at least 2 days
- Nighttime air temperatures will not drop below 75°F
- Other conditions provided by NWS or threats are determined by OEMHS (e.g., large-scale power outages).

IV. Activation

When actual or forecasted weather conditions meet the defined alert levels, DHHS and OEMHS will review all weather factors, possible threats, and available resources to determine whether it is appropriate to activate an **Extreme Cold Alert** or **Extreme Heat Alert**.

When NWS predicts more severe weather consistent with the defined Cold/Heat Emergency Alert levels, OEMHS will notify and convene a conference call with the following agencies (*not all agencies may be needed on the call*).

These agencies will review the weather conditions, possible threats, and available resources to determine whether to activate a **Cold Emergency Alert** or a **Heat Emergency Alert**. The discussion on this conference call will determine any necessary actions and the roles and expectations of each agency.

- Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
- Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (OEMHS)
- Montgomery County Department of Recreation (Rec)
- Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service (Fire)
- Montgomery County Police Department (Police)
- Office of Public Information (OPI)



- Montgomery County 311 (MC311)
- Montgomery County Public Libraries (Libraries)
- Montgomery County Department of General Services (DGS)
- Montgomery County Department of Transportation (DOT) Ride On
- Montgomery County Office of Animal Services (OAS)
- Montgomery County Regional Service Centers (RSC)

OEMHS will activate the **Cold Emergency Alert** or **Heat Emergency Alert** based on the weather conditions, possible threats, and resources available.

Items to consider during Cold/Heat Emergency Alert Conference call:

- How long are the conditions expected to last?
- Do we need extended hours for warming/cooling centers?
- Do recreation facilities and libraries have the resources to extend hours?
- Do we have/need resources to staff other County facilities being used as warming/cooling centers?
- Are there any power outages at County facilities?
- Is the Heat/Air Conditioning functioning at all potential warming/cooling centers?
- Are there existing programs/activities that have vulnerable youth and adults when opening recreation facilities to the community as a warming/cooling center?

V. Extreme Cold/Heat Alerts

a. Notification

- OEMHS will send email/text notifications to department representatives to implement their internal departmental response to the Extreme Cold/Heat Alert.
- OEMHS will maintain an Internal Alert Group in Alert Montgomery for the Extreme Temperature Plan alert distribution. This group will be updated prior to each summer and winter season.

b. Potential Extreme Cold/Heat Alert Actions

i. Public Messaging

Extreme Cold/Heat Alerts will be announced via the OEMHS and OPI County social



media pages. General heat/cold preparedness messaging is also encouraged via news releases and social media. No public messaging for the alerts will be sent via Alert Montgomery.

ii. Nursing homes

DHHS will contact area nursing homes and assisted-living facilities to make sure they have power and are equipped to handle the alert.

iii. Homeless Population – Extreme Cold

DHHS Services to End and Prevent Homelessness (SEPH) has a separate Extreme Cold Weather Plan (ECWP) for the Homeless Outreach Program to provide outreach to individuals experiencing homelessness during extreme cold and winter precipitation as mandated by the Maryland Department of Health (MDH). The plan must be updated annually. The temperate trigger for the homeless plan signals automatic actions to be taken by DHHS SEPH.

- Extreme Cold season is standard each year as defined by MDH.
- Seasonal and overflow shelters are contracted to open and operate during the season. If the weekend daytime Extreme Cold plan is activated, a community vendor will provide additional services.
- If the weather is predicted to be 32°F and below, all homeless shelter providers are required to allow any and all clients to remain in shelters during the day, and overflow shelters must open as early as possible or remain open for 24 hours.
- Email listservs have been developed and information is sent within 24 hours to a wide audience in Montgomery County informing them of winter shelter plans, including all homeless providers and County Departments.
- Police will patrol homeless encampments and encourage the population to go to the shelters or warming centers if they are outside.
- If the weather is predicted to fall below 15°F OR when the temperature will be below 20°F with an accompanying weather event that includes precipitation, DHHS SEPH may activate the Extreme Cold Weather Plan (ECWP) for outreach providers or weekend daytime Extreme Cold plan (depending on the time of the week the temperature occurs). Outreach providers are required to go out during late night and early morning hours to encourage unsheltered individuals to seek shelter and, if clients refuse, to offer extreme cold supplies.

Please see Figure 1 on the next page for an overview of DHHS homeless shelter information.



Figure 1 below describes the triggers and flow of the homeless shelter system, as well as the overflow and weekend shelter options.

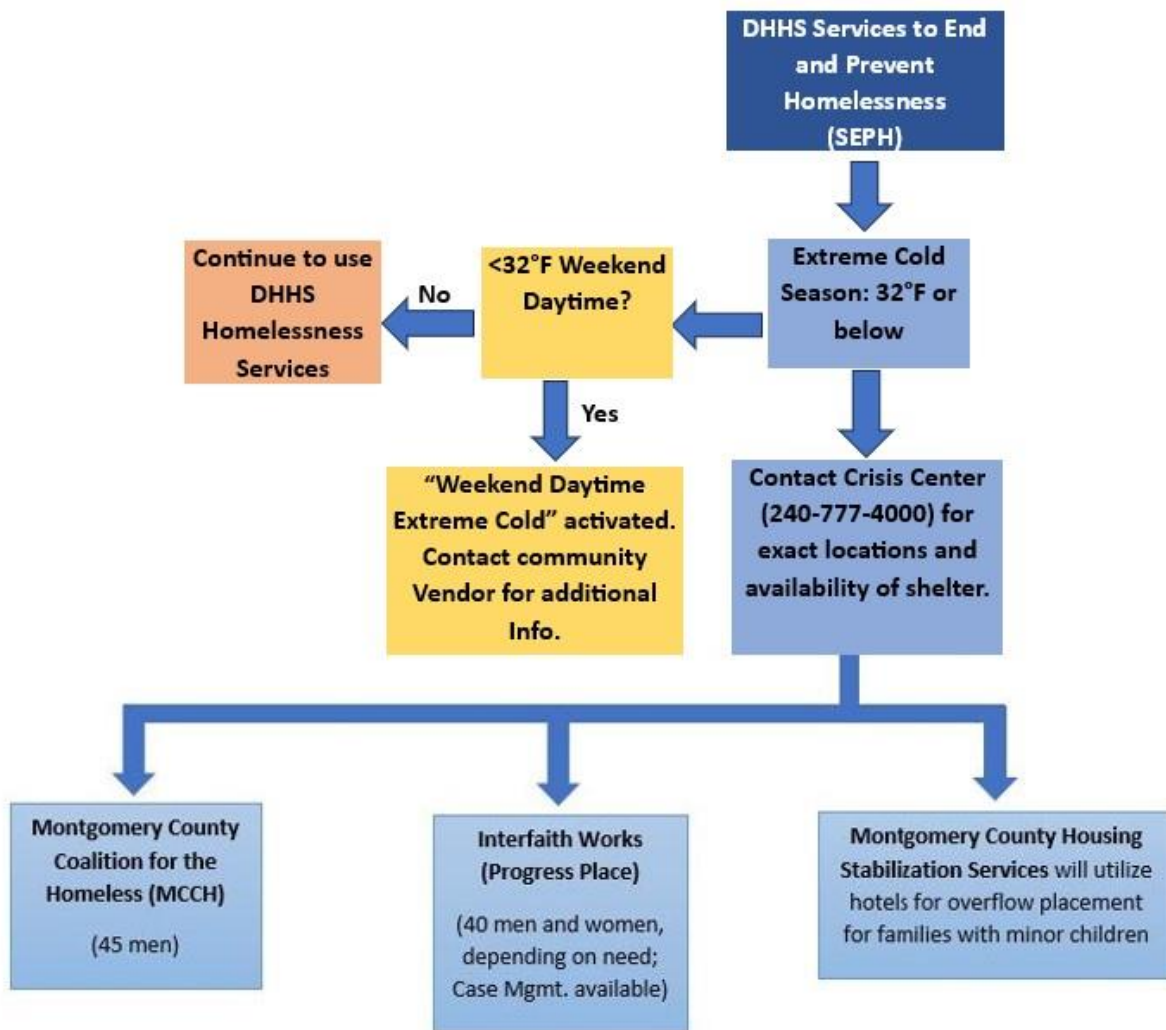


Figure 1: Homeless Shelter Information for Cold Weather



Overflow Shelters

- 1. Name of Agency:** Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless
Address of Agency: 11600 Nebel Street, North Bethesda, MD 20852
Contact Person(s): Shannan Eaddy
Phone: 301-417-4554/ 240-550-8005
Shelter capacity: 196 year-round beds for men; Extreme Cold capacity is 240 men.
Description of amenities (e.g., access to showers, cots, meals): Case management is offered.
November 1st – March 31st
Men should go to the crisis center prior to the main shelter.
- 2. Name of Agency:** Interfaith Works Progress Place
Address of Agency: 8106 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Contact Person(s): Supriya Mordecai or N'Jeri Henry
Phone: 301-585-4471
Shelter capacity: 28 year-round beds (beginning in Sept. 2022); Extreme Cold capacity is 80 men and women depending on need. 80 overflow shelter capacity, open
Description of amenities (e.g., access to showers, cots, meals): County-owned facility known as Progress Place. Showers, food, and case management are provided.
November 1st – March 31st
- 3. Name of Agency:** Montgomery County Housing Stabilization Services
Address of Agency: 1301 Piccard Drive, Rockville, MD 20850
8818 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20910
12900 Middlebrook Rd, Germantown, MD 20874
Contact Person(s): Rozina Adhanom, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness, Acting Deputy Chief Services
Phone: Rockville: 240-777- 4550, Silver Spring: 240-777-3075
Germantown: 240-777-4448
Shelter capacity: Depends on Need
Description of amenities (e.g., access to showers, cots, meals): Housing Stabilization Services provides year-round assessments for homeless families with minor children during standard business hours. After hours families with minor children can be assessed for shelter at the crisis center. If family shelters are at full capacity, homeless intake staff will utilize hotels for overflow placement. All hotels have showers and families receive case management services.



Transportation

DHHS Homeless Services Division can provide bus tokens or alternative transportation to access shelter. These tokens are provided at shelters, Shepherd's Table, and through outreach programs. Outreach staff provide tokens in the community if they engage with a client who needs shelter.

For homeless families with minor children, tokens or taxi vouchers are available, if necessary, to transport to shelter or hotel. Transportation assistance is provided through outreach programs.

DOT Ride On buses will waive bus fees for individuals who state they are going to a shelter.

Security

There is a staffing ratio of approximately 1 overnight staff per 20 persons. In addition, for psychiatric emergency assessment, the County Mobile Crisis Team is available to support all shelter programs.

Outreach

- **Homeless Information Line** 240-907-2688: 24/hrs. 7 Days/week. Provides information on County homeless services and shelter resources. Accepts and forwards to outreach providers reports of locations of individuals experiencing homelessness. This line is information online; it is not a hotline.
- **Crisis Center at DHHS** – Phone 240-777-4000: Provides information for homeless persons after-hours 7 days a week.
- **Interfaith Works Empowerment Center at Progress Place** – Phone 301-585-4471: Supportive Services and shelter for homeless individuals; case management, meals are provided at same location via Shepherd's Table and linkages behavioral health and permanent housing options.
- **Bethesda Cares** – Phone 301-907-9244: Outreach services for the homeless in the Down County area (areas South of Randolph Road, Montrose Road, and Falls Road); provides case management, lunch, and linkages to emergency shelters, transitional and permanent supportive housing.
- **Every Mind** – Phone 301-424-0656: Outreach services for the homeless in the Up County area (areas North of Randolph Road, Montrose Road, and Falls Road); Provides homeless outreach worker(s) who make referrals and linkages to emergency shelters, transitional and permanent supportive housing.
- **City of Gaithersburg** – Phone 240-805-1830: Provides homeless outreach



worker who makes referrals and linkages to shelters and treatment.

- **Pathways to Housing Outreach Services** – Phone 301-569-2732 Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. Provider homeless outreach services in the downtown Wheaton and Silver Spring areas, case management, and linkages to emergency shelter, health services and housing.
- During Cold Emergency Alerts, volunteers will complete outreach at various known locations during late night and early morning hours to encourage unsheltered persons to seek shelter. In addition, the Mobile Crisis Team will be utilized to hospitalize persons refusing to seek shelter if determined a risk to self.

Day Shelter

All shelters are open 24/7 allowing shelter residents to remain if weather conditions are hazardous. The Progress Place facility in Silver Spring, where the overflow shelter is operated, will open during the day and on weekends upon the County's request.

iv. Homeless Population – Extreme Heat

DHHS Services to End and Prevent Homelessness (SEPH) has a separate Extreme Heat Plan for outreach to the homeless population during extreme heat. The plan must be updated annually. The temperate trigger for the homeless plan signals automatic actions to be taken by DHHS SEPH.

- Extreme Heat season is standard each year during the summer.
- If the temperature is predicted to be 95°F or above, DHHS activates their Extreme Heat Plan.
- Interfaith Works Empowerment Center at Progress Place is contracted to open and operate during extreme heat and adjust hours dependent on the temperature. Year-round hours of operation:

- 8:30 AM – 6:00 PM

If a cooling center is opened during the weekend, Interfaith hours are:

- **Cooling Center:** 11:00 AM – 6:00 PM

- Shepherd's Table provides 3 meals per day during the week:
 - Breakfast 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM
 - Lunch 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
 - Dinner 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
 - **Weekend Hours:**
 - Brunch: 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
 - Dinner: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM



- All homeless shelter providers are required to allow any and all clients to remain in shelters during the day and overflow shelters open as early as possible or remain open for 24 hours.
- Email listservs have been developed and are sent within 24 hours to a wide audience, including all County departments in Montgomery County, informing them of the homeless Extreme Heat plan.
- Police will patrol homeless encampments and encourage the population to go to the shelter or cooling centers if they are outside.

VI. Cold/Heat Emergency Alerts

a. Notification

- OEMHS will send email/text notifications to department representatives to implement their internal departmental response to the Cold/Heat Emergency Alert.
- OEMHS will maintain an Internal Alert Group in Alert Montgomery for the Extreme Temperature Plan alert distribution. This group will be updated prior to each summer and winter season.

b. Potential Cold/Heat Emergency Alert Actions

i. Public Messaging

- The OPI & OEMHS will work together to develop messaging to be sent via News Releases & Alert Montgomery to the public regarding the Cold or Heat Emergency Alert, actions to be taken by Montgomery County government, and preventative and protective measures for the public to follow. The public will be advised to call the police non-emergency number to report people and animals who may be in danger due to temperatures.
- Montgomery County Government will tweet alerts to general public.
- MC311 will be advised of the Cold or Heat Emergency Alert and the associated actions. MC311 will develop a Knowledge Base Article.

ii. Warming/Cooling Centers

- OEMHS and DHHS will activate use of certain County-owned and controlled buildings, such as public libraries and recreation centers, to be used as warming or cooling centers.
 - DGS will maintain a list of sites to activate as warming/cooling centers.
 - DGS will ensure all security at warming/cooling centers is notified of activation and will notify OEMHS of facilities without heat or air



conditioner (or compromised), especially those that may be activated during an alert.

- Warming/cooling centers provide a comfortable temperature climate for people to warm up/cool down. Staff at these centers will be limited to the staff onsite necessary to operate business as usual.
- County-owned and controlled buildings to be used as warming/cooling centers will stay open during normal operating hours and may provide extended hours of operation and personnel if resources are available.
- **On County Holidays**, many County facilities will be closed. To activate a warming/cooling center, consider all available facilities that may be open on County Holidays.
 - *E.g., Recreation Centers and Libraries were closed for the 2024 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. Montgomery County Aquatic facilities were open and able to provide spaces as warming centers on that County Holiday during business hours for the Cold Emergency Alert.*

iii. Nursing homes

DHHS will contact area nursing homes and assisted-living facilities to make sure they have power and are equipped to handle the alert.

iv. Emergency Warming/Cooling Shelters

- If a neighborhood/large area power outage or another need arises which requires the overnight sheltering of Montgomery County residents, OEMHS will notify DHHS to evaluate the need for sheltering or other housing options for residents affected by extreme temperatures and activate the Montgomery County Emergency Sheltering Standard Operations Guide in coordination with ARC when necessary.
- Sheltering information will be provided to MC311.

v. Animal Services

Animal Services will provide sheltering for animals in designated Montgomery County-operated emergency shelters and enforce Executive Regulation 17-17.

vi. Homeless Population – Cold Emergency

The Montgomery County Extreme Cold plan for the homeless will be in effect if the temperature is predicted to be 32°F or below (please see section **II. Alerts** for details). DHHS will continue to monitor and communicate with the homeless shelter community in the event the weather event changes into a Cold Emergency Alert.

vii. Homeless Population – Heat Emergency



The Montgomery County Extreme Heat plan for the homeless will be in effect if the temperature is predicted to be 95°F or above (please see section **V. iv. Homeless Population – Extreme Heat** for details). DHHS will continue to monitor and communicate with the homeless shelter community in the event the weather event changes into a Heat Emergency Alert.



VII. Appendix A – Montgomery County Agency Responsibilities

Table 1 below describes the potential general roles and responsibilities of each agency during the temperature alerts.

Table 1: Montgomery County Agency Responsibilities

Agency	Responsibilities
Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitor data from the NWS for the prediction of weather conditions consistent with extreme cold or heat• Implement Montgomery County Extreme Temperature Plan• Send appropriate notifications on Alert Montgomery upon activation of Extreme Temperature Plan• Help convene meetings and/or conference calls to ensure County-wide coordination during alert/plan activation• Send email notifications to department representatives and public and notify MC311 about temperature alerts• Organize and coordinate activation of warming/cooling centers with DHHS• If a neighborhood/large area power outage or another need arises which requires the overnight sheltering of Montgomery County residents, OEMHS will activate the Montgomery County Emergency Sheltering Standard Operations Guide in coordination with the Red Cross
Department of Health and Human Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monitor data from the NWS for the prediction of weather conditions consistent with extreme cold or heat• Organize and coordinate activation of warming/cooling centers with OEMHS• Contact area nursing homes and assisted- living facilities to make sure they have power and are equipped to handle the alert• Implement the extreme weather plans for the County's homeless population
County Public Libraries	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide use of libraries as warming/cooling centers to be used during normal operating hours, and extended hours if needed and if resources and funding allow• Provide extra staffing if needed and if resources and funding allow
Department of Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide use of recreation centers as warming/cooling centers to be used during normal operating hours• If requested to, extended hours as needed and if resources and funding allow• Provide extra staffing if needed and if resources and funding allow



Department of General Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain a list of County-owned and controlled sites to activate as warming/cooling centers• Ensure all security at warming/cooling centers is notified of activation, if necessary• Notify OEMHS of facilities without heat/air conditioning (or compromised), especially those that may be activated during a temperature alert
Office of Animal Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide sheltering for animals in designated Montgomery County-operated emergency shelters if Montgomery County Emergency Sheltering Standard Operations Guide is activated• Enforce animal services regulations for extreme temperatures.
Fire and Rescue Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide assistance in rescue operations and in accordance with the Montgomery County Emergency Sheltering Standard Operations Guide if activated
County Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patrol homeless encampments during extreme temperature conditions and encourage the homeless population to go to the warming/cooling centers and shelters if they are outside
Sheriff's Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patrol homeless encampments during extreme temperature conditions and encourage the homeless population to go to the warming/cooling centers and shelters if they are outside
Office of Public Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop messaging, graphics, social media, websites, and press releases to be sent to the public regarding the temperature alerts, actions to be taken by Montgomery County government, and preventative and protective measures for the public to follow
Montgomery County 311	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop Knowledge Base Articles based on the information and actions discussed by Montgomery County government agencies• Answer Montgomery County residents' questions regarding the temperature alerts and refer them to appropriate services as necessary
Department of Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide use of Ride On buses as warming/cooling centers when requested• Provide assistance as requested
Regional Service Centers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide use of Regional Service Centers as warming/cooling centers to be used during normal operating hours• If requested to, extended hours as needed and if resources and funding allow



VIII. Appendix B – Agency Responsibilities by Alert Type

Table 2 below describes the potential actions under each type of alert by department.

Table 2: Agency Responsibilities by Alert Type

Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security	Monitor data from the NWS for the prediction of weather conditions consistent with extreme cold	Monitor data from the NWS for the prediction of weather conditions consistent with extreme temperatures
	Implement Montgomery County Extreme Temperature Plan	Convene meetings and/or conference calls to ensure County-wide coordination during alert/plan activation
	Send email notifications to department representatives about temperature alerts	Implement Montgomery County Extreme Temperature Plan
	Send alerts & preparedness messaging via social media	Send email/text notifications to department representatives and residents about temperature alerts
		Organize and coordinate activation of warming/cooling centers with DHHS
		Organize and coordinate activation of emergency shelters with DHHS
Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
Department of Health and Human Services	Monitor data from the NWS for the prediction of weather conditions consistent with extreme temperatures	Monitor data from the NWS for the prediction of weather conditions consistent with extreme temperatures
	Contact area nursing homes and assisted- living facilities to make sure they have power and are equipped to handle the alert	Contact area nursing homes and assisted- living facilities to make sure they have power and are equipped to handle the alert
	Implement the Extreme Cold/Heat weather plan for the County's homeless population <ul style="list-style-type: none">Seasonal and overflow shelters are contracted to open and operate during the season.Email listservs have been developed and are sent within 24 hours to a wide audience, including all County departments in Montgomery County, informing them of the homeless Extreme Cold & Heat plans.	Implement the Extreme Cold/ Heat weather plan for the County's homeless population <ul style="list-style-type: none">Seasonal and overflow shelters are contracted to open and operate during the season. Email listservs have been developed and are sent within 24 hours to a wide audience, including all County departments in Montgomery County, informing them of the



Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
		homeless Extreme Cold & Heat plans.
		Organize and coordinate activation of warming/cooling centers with OEMHS
		Organize and coordinate activation of emergency shelters with OEMHS

Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
Public Libraries	Provide use of libraries as warming/cooling centers	Participate in initial conference call to discuss weather conditions
		Provide use of libraries as warming/cooling centers

Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
Department of Recreation	Provide use of recreation centers & aquatic centers as warming/cooling centers	Participate in initial conference call to discuss weather conditions
		Provide use of recreation centers & aquatic centers as warming/cooling centers

Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
Department of Transportation	Provide use of Ride On buses as warming/cooling centers when requested	Participate in initial conference call to discuss weather conditions
		Provide use of Ride On buses as warming/cooling centers when requested

Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
Department of General Services		Participate in initial conference call to discuss weather conditions
		Maintain a list of County-owned and controlled sites to activate as warming/cooling centers
		Ensure all security at warming/cooling centers is notified of activation



Montgomery County Extreme Temperature Plan

Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
		Notify OEMHS of facilities without heat/air conditioning (or compromised)
Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
Office of Animal Services	Enforce animal services regulations for extreme temperatures.	Participate in initial conference call to discuss weather conditions
		Provide sheltering for animals in designated Montgomery County-operated emergency shelter.
		Enforce animal services regulations for extreme temperatures.
Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
Fire and Rescue Services		Participate in initial conference call to discuss weather conditions
		Provide assistance in rescue operations and in accordance with the Montgomery County Emergency Sheltering Standard Operations Guide
Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
County Police	Patrol homeless encampments during temperature alerts	Participate in initial conference call to discuss weather conditions
		Patrol homeless encampments during extreme temperature conditions.
Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
Sheriff's Office	Patrol homeless encampments during temperature alerts	Participate in initial conference call to discuss weather conditions
		Patrol homeless encampments during extreme temperature conditions
Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
Office of Public Information	Send alerts out via social media	Participate in initial conference call to discuss weather conditions



	Update both the Extreme Cold & Heat websites as needed COLD Website: https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OPI/alerts/hypothermia.html HEAT Website: https://montgomerycountymd.gov/OPI/alerts/Heat.html	Develop messaging, graphics, social media, and press releases in coordination with OEMHS to be sent to the public regarding the Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
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Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
MC 311		Participate in initial conference call to discuss weather conditions
		Develop Knowledge Base Articles regarding the Cold/Heat Emergency Alert

Agency	Extreme Cold/ Heat Alert	Cold/Heat Emergency Alert
Regional Service Centers	Provide use of Regional Service Centers as warming/cooling centers	Participate in initial conference call to discuss weather conditions
		Provide use of Regional Service Centers as warming/cooling centers



IX. Appendix C – National Weather Service Definitions

The following are definitions of extreme temperature alerts sent by the National Weather Service. While we utilize these in our decision-making criteria, these alerts are determined by the National Weather Service. ***These are not decided by Montgomery County and are included for informational purposes only.***

a. Heat Advisory

A **Heat Advisory** is issued when the heat index value is expected to reach 105°F to 109°F within the next 24 to 36 hours. *A Heat Advisory may be issued for lower criteria if it is early in the season or during a multi-day heat wave.*

b. Extreme Heat Watch

An **Extreme Heat Watch** is issued when there is a potential for the heat index value to reach or exceed 110°F in the next 12 to 48 hours.

c. Extreme Heat Warning

An **Extreme Heat Warning** is issued when the heat index value is expected to reach or exceed 110°F degrees within the next 24 to 36 hours. The warning is used for high heat conditions that pose a significant threat to life. An Extreme Heat Warning may be issued for lower criteria if it is early in the season or during a multi-day heat wave.

d. Wind Chill Advisory

A **Wind Chill Advisory** is issued when wind chills of -5°F to -19°F are expected.

e. Wind Chill Warning

A **Wind Chill Warning** is issued when wind chills of -20°F or lower are expected.