





Monday January 25, 2021

3:00 PM Temperature: 30

ACTION ALERT

The system we're watching for tonight's snow is currently half way across lowa and is set to start making its way into the area towards 3-5PM this afternoon and leaning towards the later hour. It may be fairly light to start but intensity will quickly become moderate after sunset and can continue for a decent part of the night. We gradually lose intensity as we head towards the predawn hours, but steady snow does continue into Tuesday morning. We finally taper down to more showery activity towards 1-4PM (Tuesday) as the large scale system exits. However, we'll still have a northeast wind and some lake effect snow showers can continue to plague the area through Wednesday (generally light accumulations). Overall, storm totals look to be around 5.0 - 8.0" through Tuesday afternoon with the bulk of that occurring tonight. Additionally, the highest amounts look to be with any lake enhancement, so east of I-355 has the best chance to see the top end of the range.

Zero tolerance crews will be dispatched at the onset of the activity to handle any immediate accumulations. This will be a long deration event with crews working throughout the overnight hours, during the day on Tuesday and then back overnight Tuesday into Wednesday handling the lake effect snow activity and general cleanup of the large event.

For all 2" and over multifamily complexes we will start clearing driveways as totals reach 4". Depending on how the snow accumulates worst case, operations will begin during the very early morning hours on Tuesday. Sidewalks are always a secondary priority to roadways, cul-de-sacs and driveways and are to be completed once at the end of the overall event.

ALERT OVERVIEW									
START TIME:	3-5 pm	ENDING TIME:	6-9 pm Tuesday		McHenry to Lake County 4-7" Elgin to Des Plaines 5-8" Joliet to Monee 3-6"				
DURATION OF PRECIP:	25 Hours	INTENSITY:	Light to Start Becoming Moderate	TOTAL					
COMMENTS:	*Snow will cover untreated surfaces quickly, especially as intensity increases. *Consistent 10-20 mph winds (30-35 mph gusts) will lead to areas of blowing and drifting.								

POTENTIAL HAZARDS:

Rapid snow accum (1"+ per hr)		Night/AM widespread refreeze	
Blowing / drifting of snow		Night/AM patchy refreeze	
Very low visibility at times		Accum. During rush hour	
		Quick untreated pavement	
Long storm duration (+12 hrs)		accum	X
Down trees/limbs/power lines		Temps during event below 20°	
Patchy ice accumulation		Long duration (+24h) below 32°	X
Severe widespread ice accum		Rapid temperature drop	
Sleet accumulation		Repeated Dustings Possible	

SNOW CONFIDENCE:

2-5 Inches	25%
5-8 Inches	60%
8-11 Inches	15%