WWUS81 KBOX 121929 SPSBOX

SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TAUNTON MA
229 PM EST FRI DEC 12 2008

MAZO02>006-008>012-026-NHZ011-012-015-130300WESTERN FRANKLIN MA-EASTERN FRANKLIN MA-NORTHERN WORCESTER MACENTRAL MIDDLESEX MA-WESTERN ESSEX MA-WESTERN HAMPSHIRE MAWESTERN HAMPDEN MA-EASTERN HAMPSHIRE MA-EASTERN HAMPDEN MASOUTHERN WORCESTER MA-NORTHERN MIDDLESEX MA-CHESHIRE NHEASTERN HILLSBOROUGH NH-WESTERN AND CENTRAL HILLSBOROUGH NHINCLUDING THE CITIES OF...CHARLEMONT...GREENFIELD...ORANGE...
BARRE...FITCHBURG...FRAMINGHAM...LOWELL...LAWRENCE...
CHESTERFIELD...BLANDFORD...AMHERST...NORTHAMPTON...SPRINGFIELD...
MILFORD...WORCESTER...AYER...JAFFREY...KEENE...MANCHESTER...
NASHUA...PETERBOROUGH...WEARE
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AREA RESIDENTS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONTINUE THE LONG CLEAN-UP ACROSS MUCH OF WESTERN AND CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS AS WELL AS PORTIONS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FROM THE DESTRUCTIVE ICE STORM THAT OCCURRED LAST NIGHT.

STATE OF EMERGENCIES WERE DECLARED FOR PORTIONS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE...AS WELL AS PORTIONS OF WESTERN AND CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS. THE HARDEST HIT AREAS WERE THE HIGHER TERRAIN IN NORTH CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS AND INTO NEW HAMPSHIRE...WHERE MANY PEOPLE WERE WITHOUT POWER. IN ADDITION...THERE ARE SO MANY TREES AND POWER LINES DOWN THAT A LOT OF ROADS IN THIS REGION WERE IMPASSABLE.

IT WILL TAKE AT LEAST SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE A LOT OF THE POWER CAN BE RESTORED. UNFORTUNATELY...LOW TEMPERATURES ARE EXPECTED TO FALL INTO THE TEENS TONIGHT AND POSSIBLY SINGLE DIGIT READINGS ON SATURDAY NIGHT.

THESE TEMPERATURES ARE DANGEROUS FOR INDIVIDUALS THAT DO NOT HAVE POWER. PEOPLE SHOULD NOT WAIT IN THEIR HOMES FOR IT TO BE RESTORED...AS THIS MAY TAKE SEVERAL DAYS. INSTEAD...PLEASE DIAL 211 FOR HELP. THIS NUMBER WILL PROVIDE THE INFORMATION YOU NEED FOR SHELTER AND TO ASSIST IN CLEANUP EFFORTS.

IF USING A GENERATOR...AVOID CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING BY FOLLOWING MANUFACTURERS INSTRUCTIONS. NEVER USE CANDLES OR OTHER OPEN FLAMES INDOORS TO HEAT YOUR HOUSE AS THIS CAN START FIRES.

AGAIN...WE STRESS THAT PEOPLE DO NOT WAIT FOR POWER TO BE RESTORED. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE POWER...PLEASE DIAL 211 AND THAT WILL GIVE YOU THE INFORMATION ON SHELTER LOCATIONS IN YOUR AREA.

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