

THE UPDATE

THE LATEST IN UNIVERSITY PARK
FEB 6, 2026

PROTECT YOUR PIPES

Many homes in our community contain older plumbing that becomes vulnerable during extreme cold. Pipes may run along exterior walls, in uninsulated crawl spaces, or through areas that don't retain heat well. During the coldest periods, keep cabinet doors under sinks open to allow warm air to circulate.

If you know certain rooms tend to run colder, consider letting faucets drip slightly to keep water moving, particularly for pipes along outside walls. Be sure outdoor hoses are disconnected and cover exposed spigots. Finally, take a moment today to locate your main water shutoff valve so that you can move quickly in an emergency.



BRACE FOR HARSH WEEKEND WEATHER!



While most of us have finally dug out from last week's winter storm, the weather isn't quite done with us yet!

The National Weather Service has issued a High Wind Warning for Saturday, February 7 (4:00 AM–7:00 PM), as well as an Extreme Cold Warning from early Saturday morning through Sunday, February 9 (10:00 AM). Bitter temperatures combined with strong winds can create dangerous conditions very quickly, even after snow has melted.

High winds increase the risk of falling branches, flying debris, and sporadic power outages. Residents are encouraged to secure or bring indoors lightweight outdoor items, avoid parking under trees where possible, and use extra caution when traveling - especially in open areas where gusts can be stronger and visibility reduced.

The extreme cold itself poses risks beyond discomfort. Wind chill values can cause frostbite on exposed skin in a matter of minutes, particularly overnight and in the early morning hours. Now is a good time to check on neighbors who may need extra support, ensure pets have adequate warmth, and limit time outdoors unless necessary. This kind of cold also strains homes and infrastructure. Even well-maintained buildings can be vulnerable when temperatures drop sharply, so a little preparation now can help prevent bigger problems later. Simple steps, such as keeping indoor temperatures consistent and knowing where your main water shutoff is, can make a real difference.

Please continue to monitor official forecasts and alerts, and take precautions seriously. Winter weather doesn't always announce itself with snow, but it can be just as disruptive and dangerous when it arrives as wind and cold.

PGCPS CALENDAR UPDATES

Prince George's County Public Schools has updated the school calendar in response to recent weather-related closures and delays.

Families are encouraged to review the revised schedule, including make-up days and adjustments, [by visiting the PGCPS website for the most current information.](#)



WATCH FOR STUDENTS ON MONDAY

Monday marks the first full return to in-person school days since January 23, and with it, the first morning commute in nearly two weeks where students and regular weekday traffic will overlap. After weather-related closures and repeated delayed openings, many families and drivers are shifting back into a normal routine at the same time.

Conditions on the ground, however, are far from normal. While most roads are passable, many sidewalks, curbs, and corners remain blocked by compacted snow and large ice buildup. These lingering hazards mean students walking to school or bus stops may need to step off sidewalks, walk closer to traffic, or navigate around icy curb ramps and crosswalks.

Drivers are asked to slow down and remain especially alert during the morning commute, particularly in residential areas and near schools. Extra caution can help account for limited visibility, unpredictable pedestrian movement, and slick conditions that may still exist in shaded or untreated areas.

Please take added care in the following locations:

- Curbs and curb ramps, where snow and ice may force students into the street
- Sidewalks, especially where plowed snow has refrozen into uneven ridges
- Crosswalks and intersections, where children may be crossing from unexpected angles
- Bus stops, where groups of students may be standing closer to the roadway
- Residential streets, where younger students may be walking with limited visibility

A few extra moments of patience on Monday morning can make a meaningful difference. Thank you for helping keep our students safe as the community returns to its regular school-day rhythm.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

**FEB
10**

[Sustainability
Committee](#)

**FEB
11**

[TPE
Committee](#)

**FEB
12**

[Development
Overview
Committee](#)