



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**RELEASE # 2017-01**

**CHATHAM TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE ADVISES RESIDENTS TO TAKE  
PRECAUTIONS DURING WINTER STORM STELLA**

*Residents Are Reminded to Stay off Roads; Call JCP&L  
If They Lose Power; Clear a Perimeter Around Fire Hydrants;  
Remove Cars From Snow Covered Roadways*

*Municipal Offices and Schools Closed on Tuesday*

**CHATHAM TOWNSHIP, NJ** – March 13, 2017 – [The Chatham Township Committee](#) advised residents to take precautions in advance of Winter Storm Stella, which is expected to arrive this evening and continue through Tuesday evening.

[Mayor Curt Ritter](#), speaking on behalf of the Committee, said, “As Winter Storm Stella approaches we remind residents to take all necessary precautions to prepare themselves. Residents should stay off the roads to allow for proper snow removal and to allow our first responders the ability to manage necessary emergencies. We encourage residents to register for [Alert Chatham Township Now! \(ACT Now!\)](#) to ensure that they receive important safety and emergency information in a timely manner, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter to receive important updates.

“We also ask residents to check on their elderly neighbors, remove all cars from snow covered roadways and work with their neighbors to remove snow from around fire hydrants to ensure easy access by the Fire Department. As always, should you lose power, please immediately call JCP&L at 1-888-544-4877 so that they are aware of the problem and can work toward restoring power in an expeditious manner.”

As a supplement to the Township's 'ACT Now!' system, residents are also reminded to "Like" the Township Committee's official Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/chathamtownshipgovernment](http://www.facebook.com/chathamtownshipgovernment) and "Follow" the Township Committee on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/ChathamTownship](http://www.twitter.com/ChathamTownship).

Residents can find winter safety tips on the Township Facebook page and at <http://rdcrss.org/1aG0E7E>

## **REPORTING POWER OUTAGES**

Residents should report power outages to JCP&L by:

- Phone: 1-888-LIGHTSS (1-888-544-4877)
- Online: <http://bit.ly/MrUGTg>
- Text: Text OUT to 544487 (register first by texting REG to 544487 (LIGHTS) to get started.)
- App: Download the free JCP&L app for your Apple® iPhone® and
- Android™ smartphone - use the keyword "FirstEnergy" to locate the apps
- in the online store.

## **POWER OUTAGE UPDATES**

Residents can view updated information on JCP&L's outages, their storm restoration process and tips for staying safe, by visiting <http://outages.firstenergycorp.com/nj.html>

## **DOWNED WIRES**

Residents should report downed wires to 1-888-544-4877 or to the Police or Fire Department -- never go near a downed power line, even if you think it is no longer carrying electricity.

## **HOME PREPARATION**

Residents are encouraged to prepare for the possibility of outages caused by winter storms:

- Keep a flashlight and extra batteries handy. Use care when burning candles; open flames are a fire hazard.
- Gather extra blankets or a sleeping bag for each person. Do not use gas stoves, kerosene heaters or other open-flame heat sources to prevent deadly carbon monoxide gas from building up in your home.

- If you have a water well and pump, keep an emergency supply of bottled water and/or fill your bathtub with fresh water.
- Stock an emergency supply of convenience foods that do not require cooking.
- Keep a battery-powered radio with extra batteries on hand. Tune to a local station for current storm information.
- Have a hard-wired telephone or a charged cell phone handy in the event you need to report your electricity is out. Mobile phones can be charged in your vehicle using a car charger when the power is out. If you have a smart phone, this will ensure you have access to online information sources.

### **About Chatham Township**

Chatham Township is located in Morris County New Jersey. It has approximately 11,000 residents and nearly 4,000 households. Individuals interested in receiving emergency and community alerts can visit <http://www.chathamtownship-nj.gov/resident-communications> and can learn more about Chatham Township at [www.chathamtownship-nj.gov](http://www.chathamtownship-nj.gov)

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