



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RELEASE # 2018-03

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

*Municipal Offices Will Be Closed on Wednesday; Residents Are Reminded
To Stay Off Snow Covered Roads; No Overnight Street Parking; Contact JCP&L
Immediately If They Lose Power; Clear a Perimeter Around Fire Hydrants;
Follow the Township on Social Media For Updates*

CHATHAM TOWNSHIP, NJ – March 20, 2018 – [The Chatham Township Committee](#) advised residents to take all necessary precautions in advance of Winter Storm Toby, which is expected to arrive this evening and continue through early Thursday morning.

[Mayor Curt Ritter](#), speaking on behalf of the Committee, said, “While today may be the first day of spring Winter Storm Toby will soon be upon us and we remind residents to take all necessary precautions to prepare themselves. Once the Storm hits, residents should stay off the roads to allow for snow removal and to provide our first responders the ability to manage necessary emergencies. We encourage residents to register for Alert Chatham Township Now! (ACT Now!) 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 the street, and work with their neighbors to remove snow from around fire hydrants to ensure easy access by the Fire Department. As always, if residents lose power they should immediately call JCP&L at 1-888-544-4877, or Text OUT to 544487 so that JCP&L is aware of the problem and they can work toward restoring power in an expeditious manner.”

Residents are reminded to register for Alert Chatham Township Now! (ACT Now!), Chatham Township’s emergency and community alerts at <http://www.chathamtownship-nj.gov/resident-communications> and to follow the

Township on social media at www.facebook.com/chathamtownshipgovernment and www.twitter.com/ChathamTownship.

REPORT POWER OUTAGES IMMEDIATELY

Residents should report power outages to JCP&L by:

- Phone: 1-888-LIGHTSS (1-888-544-4877)
- Text: Text OUT to 544487 (register first by texting REG to 544487 (LIGHTS) to get started)
- Online: <http://bit.ly/MrUGTg>
- 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.

HOW TO VIEW 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>

DO NOT APPROACH 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.

WINTER STORM SAFETY CHECKLIST

Residents can find winter safety tips at <http://rdcrss.org/1aG0E7E>

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

###

Media Contact:

Gregory J. LaConte
Township Clerk/Registrar
973-635-4600
glaconte@chathamtownship.org

Chatham Township Committee

Curt Ritter, Mayor
973-635-4600
critter@chathamtownship-nj.gov