Madison County Government
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Winter Blast Emergency Preparations
Madison County, NC – January 21, 2026

In anticipation of pending inclement weather, Madison County Emergency Management Coordinator Patrick Ward, hosted a 10 AM, 21 January 2026, coordination meeting with the Madison County Public School System, government and local public safety officials and staff, and elected leaders. During the meeting, based on current weather models, the Emergency Management Coordinator noted that he anticipates "Saturday morning through Sunday afternoon commutes to be the most challenging timeframe and recommends that citizens do not travel unless absolutely necessary."

In coordination with Madison County School Superintendent Dr. Will Hoffman, Madison County Government is preparing to open shelters, if necessary. In the event that shelter operation is required, the Wellness Center at Madison County Early College High School and Hot Springs Elementary School will serve as designated sites with the Wellness Center serving as the main shelter. County Manager Rod Honeycutt requested the group begin preparing equipment, staff, and resources before 12 PM on Friday. "If the environment and safety measures necessitate, we will be prepared to respond." The County will provide social media, radio, and TV News updates to keep citizens informed about current weather, road conditions, and shelter status.

Honeycutt anticipates making weekend weather-related closure and shelter operational decisions at 1 PM on Friday with updates being announced as weather conditions necessitate. For the most recent updated status, please visit the Madison County Emergency Management Facebook page @ https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100032893136688.

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