



PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Undersheriff Mike Downey

SHERIFF'S OFFICE IS URGING THE PUBLIC TO LIMIT THEIR TRAVEL IN KANKAKEE COUNTY

February 24, 2016- KANKAKEE, IL – The Kankakee County Sheriff's Office has taken preventative measures to prepare for today's/tonight's storm. The following areas are being considered warming centers during the storm:

- *Pembroke Senior Citizen Center
- *Kankakee (all Public Safety Centers), the Kankakee Library & the Kankakee City Hall
- *Bradley's Northfield Square Mall
- *Bourbonnais Community Center
- **AFTER HOURS WARMING CENTERS* – The Salvation Army & the American Red Cross Building

In addition, the River Valley Metro has announced free bus rides, which will serve as temporary warming centers, for anyone in the Kankakee/Bradley/Bourbonnais area. Visibility has deteriorated greatly with high winds and blowing snow. The Sheriff's Office urges the public to limit their travel, if possible.

"Weather projections appear to be just as devastating during the afternoon hours," stated Undersheriff Mike Downey. "Our deputies (as well as investigators and administrators) are working vigorously to keep up with calls for cars in the ditch and stranded motorists/accidents, but we encourage all area motorists to limit their travel if at all possible. The weather predictions that we've received indicate this storm to be a significant weather event for our area and we urge everyone to stay in unless absolutely necessary."

The National Weather Service in Chicago has announced that a Blizzard Warning remains in effect in Kankakee County until 9pm CST on Wednesday, February 24, 2016. If you must drive our area roadways today, the Sheriff's Office encourages everyone to exercise great caution and to take the necessary precautions to avoid a catastrophe, such as having a charged cell phone, warm clothing and other emergency items.