



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER #256

Declaring a State of Emergency in Response to Severe Weather

WHEREAS, beginning on March 29, 2025, and continuing through today, severe weather, including high winds and heavy ice and snow, affected large portions of the State of Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, the severe weather caused widespread and significant damage throughout the State, including continued loss of heat for homes or water, tree and structural damage, and power outages;

WHEREAS, electric utilities are continuing to work around the clock to restore power to residents, and local communities experiencing power outages are providing debris clearance, sheltering, and other emergency protective services for their residents;

WHEREAS, however, as more heavy snow and severe weather are expected while this work remains ongoing that may cause additional damage and require additional resources such as backup power generation, communications, and shelter services to protect the health and safety of affected residents, an emergency declaration is necessary;

WHEREAS, emergency responders from fire, law enforcement, and emergency medical services need to respond as a result of the severe weather, including staff from Wisconsin Emergency Management, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, the Wisconsin Public Service Commission, the Wisconsin State Patrol, and the Wisconsin National Guard; and

WHEREAS, additional personnel and resources are needed to expedite and enhance the response and recovery operations in the affected areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TONY EVERS, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of this State, specifically Sections 321.39(1)(a), 323.10, and 323.12(4) of the Wisconsin Statutes, do hereby:

1. Proclaim that a State of Emergency exists in the State of Wisconsin.
2. Direct all state agencies of the State of Wisconsin to assist as appropriate in the response and recovery effort.
3. Call to state active duty such elements of the Wisconsin National Guard as the acting Adjutant General deems necessary to assist civil authorities for the purposes of assisting in response and recovery efforts, as well as providing security and any other essential services.

4. Authorize the Adjutant General to utilize personnel called to state active duty pursuant to this order in emergency status.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this first day of April in the year of two thousand twenty-five.

Tony Evers

TONY EVERS
Governor

By the Governor:

Sarah Godlewski

SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State