



**For immediate release  
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## **DCR READIES FOR WEEKEND STORMS**

*Crews and equipment in place to keep roads and sidewalks clear*

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) will have approximately 200 employees and 350 pieces of equipment dedicated to snow removal across the Commonwealth on Friday and over the weekend to clear roads, sidewalks, and crosswalks during the predicted winter storm.

DCR has an extensive snow emergency plan, developed in collaboration with officials from the City of Boston and other state agencies to coordinate all snow management plans and efforts throughout the storm.

To facilitate snow removal, DCR has instituted a parking ban on DCR roadways in Greater Boston, effective at 9 a.m. Friday, Dec. 19. Also, all DCR ice rinks will be closed on Friday to allow rink staff members to clear snow from around the buildings and ensure safe access to the rinks on Saturday.

“DCR has a comprehensive Storm Management Plan for the snow and ice season, which will kick in with the first flake on Friday,” said DCR Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr. “Our top priority is ensuring public safety on our parkways, roads, and sidewalks.”

This year, DCR efforts will be augmented by several additional inmate crews from Massachusetts correctional facilities. Those crews will be assigned to clear snow and ice from pathways and pedestrian bridges along the Esplanade.

DCR prioritizes snow removal on parkways, sidewalks, and crosswalks according to safety concerns and traffic flow. To ensure that DCR snow removal measures are clear to the public, they are posted on the agency’s website at [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr).

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*The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, and dams, in addition to 278 bridges and miles of roadways. Led by Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr., the agency’s mission is to protect,*

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*promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr). Contact us at [mass.parks@state.ma.us](mailto:mass.parks@state.ma.us).*