

**COMMUNICATIONS**- during severe storms for Seneca Nation members/residents.

For members who utilize Seneca Nation services, we urge you to talk with department staff ahead of time for critical needs in person or by phone. During a weather event it may not be possible to call them, if so, you can call Seneca Nation Dispatch to have your request forwarded to the respective department staff.

Dispatch numbers are Allegany 716-945-2779 or Cattaraugus 716-532-8211

During periods of severe weather that impact the territories, we are advising residents to be aware of the following efforts to get important information to you in a timely manner.

**Alert Notification** responsibility will be with Emergency Management to develop and issue alert notifications & safety messages for the communities and employees. The messages will come over different platforms, and in several formats.

- **Regroup** – a mass notification messaging service intended to provide SN Employees and Community Members with broadcasted services in the event of emergencies, closings, delays, and health/safety messages. This service allows fast and reliable communications via mobile devices, landlines & email.
- **Seneca Nation Media** - has the capability of developing and sending urgent messages over the other various social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Snap Chat.

**Internal Alert Messaging** is provided for the Seneca Nation staff and community in several ways, before, during and after a storm event.

**Hazardous Travel Information** is gathered from several sources for the safety of those who have to travel from one point to another.

- Marshal Department for local road conditions on Territory
- County Road Maintenance Shops for area roads they plow and maintain
- NY State DOT for area road conditions outside of our territories
- NY State Thruway Authority for conditions on this fee road
- NITTEC (Niagara International Transportation Technology Coalition) website for conditions regionally on many of the major roadways

When hazardous weather conditions warrant notices of hazardous road conditions will be posted. These notices need to be taken seriously by the traveling public.

**Travel Advisories** are sent when area road conditions have worsened and pose safety risks to travelers. If you travel, you do at your own risk.

**Travel Bans** are implemented when weather conditions present extreme danger to persons who may be traveling on area roads. If you don't have to travel, don't. During these times only First Responders and Essential Staff are expected to be out on the roadways. The Nation has implemented an Essential Staffing Policy and have issued ID Cards annually for staff.

**Message Boards** located at the onramps to major roadways in our area, give drivers important information or updates to dangerous road conditions prior to getting on that roadway. During extreme weather events, language used will encourage drivers to make a life safety decision for themselves and passengers by turning around and getting off the roads.

**Traffic Barricades** installed at onramps to major roadways in the region, limit access to these main roads during severe storms, preventing travelers from being stuck on the roadway and in need of rescue that be may be difficult if not impossible.

**External Alert Notifications** are provided to outside communities and agencies to keep them apprised of the action the Seneca Nation is taking in response to the weather event.

**Communication with neighboring communities** in real-time is necessary since many emergencies will cross these invisible boundaries. This information sharing ensures good working relationships between neighboring communities.

**Communication among response partner agencies** is essential so that all parties are aware of what actions each is taking for a coordinated effort and effective conclusion.