

SHELBY TOWNSHIP PRESS RELEASE

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Shelby Township streets cleared thanks to dedication of crews, new plow trucks

A storm that dumped more than a foot of snow across Metro Detroit was no match for the Shelby Township Department of Public Works and the Parks, Recreation, and Maintenance Department.

Starting at 4:30 a.m. Feb. 2, all 11 of the township's plow trucks were sent out after Shelby Township declared a snow emergency.

The fleet is two trucks larger this year after the Board of Trustees approved the purchases at its Dec. 2, 2014 meeting to help maintain the roads following last year's historic winter.

"Thanks to the planning of our department heads, Dave Miller with the DPW and Joe Youngblood with Parks and Recreation, their departments, and the support of the Board of Trustees, we were able to put the safety of our residents first and make sure that our subdivision streets were cleared," said Shelby Township Supervisor Rick Stathakis.

"Since 2008, the Board of Trustees has committed to providing the resources necessary to clear our residential streets during snow emergencies, and this is just the most recent proof of their success and that their efforts are working."

While township crews cleared the neighborhoods, crews from the Macomb County Department of Roads ensured that major thoroughfares were clear.

"I was so impressed by the quick and complete response from our county officials that I had to call Executive Hackel and relay my gratitude," Stathakis said.

Township crews had trucks clearing streets until later afternoon Feb. 3 to ensure the safety of the residents and that streets were cleared before more snow was forecasted to fall late that night.

Township crews are dispatched by Macomb County, which reimburses the township for the costs associated with plowing. To report a street that needs clearing, residents should request assistance by contacting the Macomb County Department of Roads at 586-463-8671.

"It's important to us that our residents are taken care of and feel safe within the township," said Youngblood. "We were out all day yesterday, and will be out all day today to make sure the Shelby Township is at its best."

Winter Storm Linus graced Shelby Township with winds ranging from 15 to 22 MPH and left 16.7 inches of snow at the Metro Detroit Airport, leaving behind the most snow the metro area has seen since 1974 and becoming the third heaviest snowstorm on record.

According to the National Weather Service, Shelby Township was blanketed with 15.5 inches of snow by the storm, which ranked the community tops in Macomb County and fifth in the state.

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