



The State of Maryland

Executive Department

EXECUTIVE ORDER 01.01.2026.07

Declaration of a State of Preparedness - Severe Weather

- WHEREAS, The State of Maryland is subject to a variety of hazards and disasters, including an impending emergency as defined in Section 14-101(c) of the Public Safety Article of the Maryland Code;
- WHEREAS Pursuant to Executive Order 01.01.2023.20, the Governor may declare a State of Preparedness when he determines that there is a significant risk of a public emergency as defined in the Maryland Emergency Management Act, Md. Code, Public Safety Article § 14-301;
- WHEREAS, The declaration of a State of Preparedness ensures a proactive, collaborative and forward-leaning State response to potential or actual emergencies;
- WHEREAS, Having been advised and informed by the Maryland Department of Emergency Management that that there is significant risk for widespread damaging winds and a heightened tornado threat in all areas of Maryland beginning Monday, March 16, 2026 as a result of an impactful severe weather event;
- WHEREAS, Action is needed to prepare to protect the lives and property of Maryland residents and visitors that may be impacted by the severe weather event;
- WHEREAS, Transportation, power utility, water utility, and other critical infrastructures may be negatively affected by the impact of the severe weather event;

WHEREAS

State and local government agencies may require additional resources and support to implement proactive actions and meet the public safety and welfare needs of Maryland residents who may be negatively impacted by the severe weather event;

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, WES MOORE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO TITLE 14 OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND CODE, AND BASED ON THE ABOVE FINDINGS, HEREBY DECLARE THAT A STATE OF PREPAREDNESS EXISTS IN THE STATE AND THAT PREPARATIONS MUST BE MADE FOR THE ANTICIPATED SEVERE WEATHER, AND HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

- A. The Maryland Department of Emergency Management is hereby directed to coordinate the State preparedness and response, in accordance with the State Consequence Management Operations Plan, to the severe weather anticipated to begin on Monday, March 16, 2026.
- B. All other appropriate State authorities are hereby authorized to activate their emergency preparedness plans and engage, deploy, use, and coordinate available resources in furtherance of those plans.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, this 15th Day of March 2026.



Wes Moore
Governor

ATTEST:



Susan C. Lee
Secretary of State

