

Monday, January 10, 2011 0 5:00 AM

Overall, Township snow crews did an outstanding job responding to the moderate snow event on Saturday. The Township was prepared, had a plan of action and executed that plan very well. All Township roads were plowed and treated by late Saturday night. The aggressive salting operation greatly assisted in burning off any residual snow and ice on the roads on Sunday. The Township even was able to clear major paths and sidewalks used by students walking to school. Also, the Township was able to assist Board of Education snow crews with salting school facilities. The cooperation between the Township and the Board with regards to snow operations is working extremely well. It benefits both entities.

On Monday, the Township will remain in snow mode and prepare for the approaching snow storm forecasted for Tuesday. A major focus will be the repair of the municipal fleet along with securing additional road salt. Current inventory of road salt is almost exhausted and we are holding the balance in reserve for use on Monday morning. There will be trash and recycling collection on Monday.

The storm system bringing winter weather to Barnegat on Tuesday is complex with many factors that could impact the eventual amount of snowfall. A slight change in storm track or intensity could be the difference between a manageable event versus challenging and difficult storm. At this time, the consensus of weather professionals is the Ocean County area will experience snowfall in the 5-8 inch range. There might be an issue of some sleet and freezing rain mixing with the snow Tuesday night in Barnegat, especially east of the Garden State Parkway. This could hold snow accumulation down slightly again especially east of the Parkway. Regardless of how severe the winter storm will be, the Township will be prepared and ready to respond. Bottom line, it will snow Tuesday afternoon through Wednesday morning. Will keep all posted on weather forecast and status of Township snow preparations.