



**For immediate release
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Neighbors Helping Neighbors As Snow and Ice Melt In Weekend Warm Up

**As City Crews Work To Clear Snow And Ice From Catch Basins,
Mayor Asks Residents To Do Their Part To Reduce Flooding**

(Columbus) In the aftermath of last week's snow and ice storm, Department of Public Utilities crews are working to clear melting ice and snow from catch basins. With temperatures expected to reach near 50 degrees this weekend, Mayor Michael B. Coleman is asking residents to step up and do their part by shoveling walks and clearing snow and ice from catch basins.

“Our snow warriors have worked so hard around the clock to clear snow and ice from streets, but everyone can pitch in to help our neighbors, especially seniors, by shoveling sidewalks and helping clear catch basins on the streets where we live,” said Mayor Coleman.

Despite sub-freezing temperatures, Public Utilities crews already have chipped away snow and ice around catch basins under bridges and will continue to work around the city. Residents also can help by clearing ice and snow from sump pump outlet pipes to prevent water from backing up into basements and downspout pipe outlets at the curb.

Churches, area commissions, civic associations and other neighborhood groups can band together to clear catch basins in their areas to allow the melting snow and ice to flow into storm sewers. Residents should shovel the snow and ice into the sewer and onto the curb, but away from sidewalks. Heat within the sewer will melt the ice.

The City maintains more than 40,000 catch basins and more than 6,200 miles of sewers.

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