

Johnson County, Indiana Local Disaster Emergency Declaration

Effective Date and Time: January 25th, 2026, 11:07 am EST.

WHEREAS, Johnson County, Indiana has been impacted by or is immediately threatened by the following emergency conditions:

The National Weather Service has issued both a winter storm warning Heavy mixed precipitation expected with a total snow accumulations between 7 and 10 inches in central Indiana. Johnson County is also under a severe weather advisory for wind chills as low as 15 below zero. Roads, and especially bridges and overpasses, will likely become slick and hazardous; travel could be very difficult. The strong winds and weight of snow on tree limbs may down power lines and could cause sporadic power outages.

Now, therefore, we, the Johnson County Board of Commissioners, pursuant to IC §10-14-3-29 and Johnson County Ordinances §10-2-1 *et seq* and §10-3-3-3 declare that a local disaster emergency exists in the County and that we hereby invoke those portions of the Indiana Code which are applicable to the conditions and have caused the issuance of this declaration to be in full force and effect in the County for the exercise of all necessary emergency measures necessary for protection of lives and property and the prompt restoration of local government services.

The effect of this Declaration is to:

- (1) Activate the response and recovery aspects of all applicable County disaster emergency plans;
- (2) Authorize the furnishing of aid and assistance under the plans;
- (3) Pursuant to IC §10-14-3-29.5, declare a local travel advisory, as follows:

"Advisory"

_____ This level may be declared when routine travel or activities may be restricted in areas of the county because of a hazardous situation; citizens should use caution or avoid these areas.

"Watch"

_____ This level may be declared when conditions are threatening to the safety of the public. Only essential travel is recommended (i.e. to and from work, emergency situations, etc.). At this level, emergency action plans should be implemented by businesses, schools, government agencies and other organizations.

X _ "Warning"

This level may be declared when roads have become impassable and the Johnson County Highway Department is not able to keep the roadways cleared due to a severe snow fall, flooding, or similar extreme weather conditions. Travel may be restricted to emergency management workers ONLY and essential emergency travel by members of the public as the Board may further direct, such as privately employed health care workers. During a warning local advisory, individuals are directed to:

- (1) Refrain from all travel;
- (2) Comply with necessary emergency measures;

- (3) Cooperate with public officials and disaster services forces in executing emergency operations plans; and
- (4) Obey and comply with the lawful directions of properly identified officers.

All public officers and employees of Johnson County are hereby designated as emergency management workers for the duration of this emergency but are hereby directed to limit their travel to that which is essential to the discharge their public safety and essential service duties. Such employees are also hereby directed to exercise the utmost diligence in the discharge of duties required of them for the duration of the emergency and in execution of emergency laws, regulations, and directives, state and local.

In accordance with IC §10-14-3-29.5(a)(3) and IC §10-14-3-29(d), this Declaration does not prohibit emergency management workers, as defined in IC §10-14-3-3, individuals engaged in employment necessary to maintain a safe rail system, restore a public utility or provide any other emergency public service from traveling within the County during this local disaster emergency.

All operating forces will direct their communications and requests for assistance and operations directly to the Johnson County Emergency Operation Center.

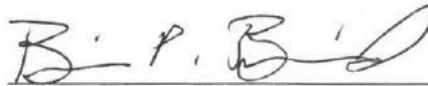
Reference is hereby made to all appropriate laws, statutes, ordinances, and resolutions, particularly to §10-14-35.5, §10-14-3-29 and §10-14-3-29.5 of the Indiana Code and to §§10-2-1-1 through 10-2-2-2 and §§10-3-1-1 through 10-3-3-13 of the Johnson County, Indiana Code of Ordinances.

In accordance with IC §10-14-3-29, this Declaration may not be continued or renewed for more than seven (7) days, except by or with the consent of the Johnson County Board of Commissioners.


This Declaration shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly in the offices of the County Clerk, County Auditor, and the clerk of any incorporated municipality included in the disaster area, pursuant to Johnson County Ord. §10-3-3-3.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hand this 25th day of January 2026.

JOHNSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Brian Baird, Chair

Attest: 
Elizabeth Al y, Johnson Coun Auditor