

	JOPLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT Standard Operating Guideline	SOG 602.0-21
Category: Emergency Management Subject: Winter Weather Warming Centers PAGES: 2		Effective Date: 10/01/21 Revised:
Application: City of Joplin Departments and Citizens	Authorized by: Interim Fire Chief Mark Cannon	

- I. **Purpose:** To provide guidance and direction on when and how warming centers should be opened during extreme cold events.

A. Daytime Warming Centers: General Procedures

1. The City will publish notification of Extreme Temperatures as they occur and/or are predicted by the National Weather Service out of Springfield, Missouri. Extreme Temperatures refers to temperatures at or below 0 Degrees Fahrenheit, for three or more days in a row. Notification will be via email, City Website, social media (Twitter and Facebook), public media (TV, Radio, Newspaper).
2. The City will offer use of City owned public spaces, during regular business hours, for use as warming centers.
 - a) City buildings used as warming centers will be identified after polling department heads on what buildings are capable/suitable for the event.
 - b) The City PIO will communicate to the public which city buildings will be designated as a warming center during extreme temperatures.
3. The City will encourage other organizations – schools, businesses, houses of worship, clubs, and civic organizations – to follow suit as “good neighbors” in offering their facilities as Warming Centers.
4. The Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) has agreed to act as an additional notification resource, and, to post locations and times as they become known.

B. Nighttime Warming Centers: Organizations Providing Overnight Accommodations

1. The Joplin Police Department shall be notified of:
 - a. Hours of operation of the warming centers.
 - b. Number of people in the warming centers.

2. The Joplin Fire Marshal or designee will perform an in-house inspection to assure compliance with the following:
 - a. Adopted building and fire codes related to centers.
 - b. Maximum occupancy for the warming center.

3. Building/facility management must agree to:
 - a. Have at least one fire extinguisher.
 - b. Establish an all-night Fire Watch staffed by building/facility personnel
 - c. Install smoke detectors.

4. The City will issue a temporary occupancy permit to those agencies who agree to and pass the previous requirements. This permit will be good for one year.

C. City Owned Nighttime Warming Center: Should sufficient overnight warming centers become unavailable; the City will open the lobby of the Justice Center.

1. Notifications will be made as above.
2. Hours will be determined as needed.
3. Further need assessment will be made daily.