Monroe County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo is urging residents to use additional caution when traveling or spending time outside Thursday into Friday. Additionally, students walking to school or waiting outside should dress appropriately for the weather due to subzero wind chill.

“The National Weather Service has issued a winter weather advisory continuing through 5 a.m. Friday. Local residents should monitor local television and radio for the most up-to-the-minute updates on conditions,” said Dinolfo. “The County’s Office of Emergency Management is monitoring the situation, is in contact with state, town and village officials and will provide additional guidance as warranted.”

The National Weather Service has issued a winter weather advisory for our area continuing through 5 a.m. Friday. There is a possibility of a snow squall during Thursday’s morning commute which could also lead to travel difficulties.

“While we are no strangers to winter here in Monroe County, today’s wintery blast with high winds has the possibility to add risk to our commute today and tomorrow” said Dinolfo. “Anyone who finds themselves in weather-related crisis should contact 9-1-1.”

The forecast anticipates the 5 to 9 inches of snow in the most persistent bands but the primary concern is the subzero wind chill. Winds with speeds of 25-35 MPH with gusts up 50 MPH will likely lead to reduced visibility and drifting snow. In addition, the wind chills could drop into the negative teens significantly increasing the risk of frostbite on exposed skin.

To prepare for freezing temperatures, County Executive Dinolfo and the Monroe County Office of Emergency Management offer these tips:

- **Minimize outside activities** – particularly for the elderly, youths and pets.
- **Stay informed** – check the news for further emergency information and up-to-date information on weather conditions.
- **Dress appropriately** – wear loose, lightweight and warm clothing in several layers; also wear hats and gloves.
- **Check symptoms of hypothermia** – include inability to concentrate, poor coordination, slurred speech, drowsiness, exhaustion and shivering.
- **Check for frostbite** – skin may become numb or flushed.
THIS ANNOUNCEMENT DOES NOT RESTRICT TRAVEL IN MONROE COUNTY but is intended to remind residence of the challenges of traveling during winter weather.

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