

# Umatilla County Emergency Management

## **Emergency News Release**

-- For immediate release --

January 5, 2008 9:30 am  
Windstorm Release #3

Contact: Dawn Blalack, Public Information Officer  
(541) 966-3706 desk / (541) 969-7587 cell

### **Warming Shelter To Open In Milton-Freewater**

Today Ray Denny, Umatilla County Director of Emergency Management, has requested that American Red Cross open a warming shelter in Milton-Freewater at the Community Center. The warming shelter will be open at 11:00 am and allow people to warm up, get a cup of coffee, and information.

Citizens are encouraged to call their power company's assistance line directly for questions about power restoration or to report power outage. Umatilla Electric Cooperative (UEC) Answering Service is 800-452-2273. Pacific Power is 877-548-3768. Please reserve 911 for life threatening issues only.

During a power outage, people should avoid using gas ovens, gas ranges, barbecues, charcoal, kerosene, or propane heaters for indoor heating. Stay away from downed power lines and sagging trees with broken limbs. Use and store food carefully to prevent food-borne illness when refrigeration is unavailable. Keep refrigerators and freezers closed. Never taste suspect food. If in doubt, throw it out.

Last night Governor Ted Kulongoski declared a state of emergency for Umatilla County, at the request of the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners, to help cope with the impacts of the storms and high winds that have hit the County.

Citizens needing assistance, including shelter, should call Umatilla County at 541-966-3651.

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