HDPS Requests Assistance From Residents and Businesses In Clearing Snow From Around Fire Hydrants and Exit Doors

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The Holland Department of Public Safety is reminding all business and residents in the area to keep fire hydrants and exits clear of snow.

As a result of West Michigan's large amount of snowfall accumulation, many of the fire hydrants have become covered making them difficult to find and access in an emergency. Please take an active roll by "adopting a hydrant" and help the department by seeing that these valuable tools are uncovered.

In addition, residents should take note that snow and piling of snow can block exits from buildings and homes that may be needed in the event of a fire or emergency. Snow blocking these exits needs to be removed and placed in an area that will not block someone's exit from a building.

We would also encourage commercial property managers to inspect and maintain heat in areas of their buildings that have automatic fire protection systems. With the extremely cold temperatures, water based fire protection in certain areas of buildings could be vulnerable to freezing and damage or failure could result. Dry systems should be checked to make sure they have not been flooded or tripped.

Many commercial properties have required fire department access roads. These need to be cleared and maintained so that fire apparatus can access buildings or portions of buildings in the event of an emergency.

We thank you in advance for your time and consideration with these matters.

For further information, contact John Vander Kooy, Fire Marshal at the Holland Fire Department. (616) 355-1024

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