

Sunday storm cleanup continues Monday

■ Westar Energy trucks lined up along Atchison's Main Street Monday, November 26, 2018/Credit: Kim Bottorff

(KAIR)--Road crews across the region continue the ongoing effort of clearing travel routes following Sunday's blizzard-like conditions that brought snow, ice, and strong winds to the local area.

Atchison County Emergency Management, in a Monday morning Facebook post, reported that highways and paved roads in Atchison County are open, but remain slick.

Crews have also been working through the day to clear gravel roads.

The City of Atchison also provided an update to Facebook, saying that a relatively thin layer of ice developed overnight, but crews have been working to clear the roads of both the ice and the packed snow.

In the update, the City of Atchison stated that while side streets have been plowed, more focus would be placed on those areas throughout the day.

Crediting a sunny forecast, the post explains that the sunshine will allow the salt used to treat streets to thoroughly work, with the post noting that north/south streets will clear faster than those running east/west due to sun exposure.

Residents are also urged to pile driveway snow on the left side, when looking from the street, in order to help alleviate plow ridges as city plows continue to clear the streets.

Sunday's storm also left thousands without power, but an update Monday morning from Westar Energy said power in the immediate area has been restored.

Westar spokeswoman Gina Penzig Sunday told MSC News that while the storm damage was widespread, the areas impacted hardest were Atchison, Leavenworth, Topeka, Lawrence, and Ottawa.

At it's peak Sunday, 32,000 Westar customers were without power, and crews from well outside the area were called in to assist with the restoration effort.

Monday morning, Westar trucks, bearing license plates from such out-of-area locations as Wichita and Hutchinson, lined Atchison's Main Street, as the crews continued to make local area repairs.

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