

# Corry, a small town in Erie County, gets subzero temperatures

Like much of Pennsylvania, Corry citizens had to brave the -10 degree temperatures and icy road conditions. Although snow and ice are not *unusual* for the area, this past weekend Corry had -25 degree windchills accompanied by 50MPH wind gusts. This disrupted holiday travel and many families had to stay “locked in” for the holidays.

## Businesses forced to close

Following the freezing rain and strong gusts of wind, many local businesses closed early. Cindy Lou Who, a Christmas Shop owner, said “I felt horrible for my employees, not being with their families, and having to travel home in the horrible weather conditions. I made the decision, along with many other business owners, to close my doors early for the day and send my employees home. I think we all needed to go home and have some hot chocolate and sit by a fire with our families.” Restaurants including McDonalds and Dairy Queen also closed early, keeping in mind their customers safety.

## Power Outages Across the City

On the 24th of December, several power outages were reported across the city. Some were without power for over 10 hours, in the hazardous cold. Responders and dispatchers were quickly investigating the issue, but with several trees down and high winds, it was difficult to find the root of the issue. Fortunately, power was returned shortly after sunset, when the temperatures really dropped. “It was a difficult and stressful day” said Mitchel White, head of the electric company, “We were sending out everyone we could, but being Christmas Eve, everyone wanted to be with family, including myself, but the wellbeing of our customers came first. We were switching out, some people would sit in the heated truck for a little while, while the others worked outside. Given it was already -7 degrees by 4PM, we knew we had to be careful with the winds and being outside. I am just glad we were able to restore the power when we did.”

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