

## March Madness from Mother Nature

Written by Steve Frank  
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Another blast of winter weather, another day off for area schools and maybe more days or hours added to school calendars across the High Country and Foothills. DOT crews worked the highways all night, and most are passable, as are municipal roads, but all are snow covered and any travel that can be put off should be put off.

Linemen with Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation have been responding since 4:30 a.m. to outages affecting 72 members in Caldwell and Alexander counties. Scattered outages are also reported in Watauga and Wilkes. Two to three inches of heavy, wet snow bringing down tree limbs outside the right of way is the cause of outages in several locations near the Caldwell/Alexander county line, around the Dudley Shoals community, Antioch Church Road, Hwy. 127 N and Taylorsville Road. Sixty-one members in Alexander County are without power, while 11 in Caldwell County are affected. Blue Ridge employees remain on high alert due to weather and road conditions this morning, which could lead to outages.