

The Detroit News

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Garth Brooks
back with a
6-show stand

GO!, 10M



Bryan Mitchell / Special to The Detroit News

Outside workers like Larry Creed brave the chill without gloves.

When it's cold outside, they keep going

Delivery drivers, utility workers go to work no matter how low the thermometer goes. But today's below-zero temps will test their mettle.

METRO, 4A

COLD COMFORT

BY FRANCIS X. DONNELLY, CHARLES E. RAMIREZ
AND URSULA WATSON
The Detroit News

Think you've got it tough with the cold weather? How about the people who have to work in it? While you're sidling up to the radiator at the office, these poor sods are right in the thick of it.

How do they cope? How do they walk into the embrace of a deep freeze that won't lessen its grip on them for eight hours?

Layers, of course. Plenty of coffee, for sure. Seeking warm refuges as often as possible, naturally.

Dan Rodriguez goes the hot-beverage route. The tow truck driver from Detroit buys java all day long.

"I used to have a Thermos but it got cold as soon as I put it on the seat," he said Wednesday as he worked in temperatures that struggled into the high teens.

Unlike some members of the cold weather fraternity, Rodriguez, 36, has a ready shelter from the elements — his truck. He keeps the heat cranked so leaving his vehicle feels like jumping from a sauna into a frigid pool.

Tony Pace has to deal with a double whammy.

The supervisor of the Jax Kar Wash in Rochester not only faces the cold, but water, too.

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Larry Creed of Royal Oak works Wednesday along Six Mile in Northville. He said working with bolts makes wearing gloves difficult.

A cold, hard forecast

Relief from Metro Detroit's deepest and longest cold snap of the winter won't arrive until Saturday.

Thursday: Mostly sunny with a high of 4, with winds gusting to 23 mph.

Thursday night: Mostly clear with a low of minus-9.

Friday: Mostly sunny with a high near 12.

Friday night: Snow likely, accumulating less than one inch. Low around 8.

Saturday: Chance of snow with a high near 30.

Source: National Weather Service