



SAFETY TALKS:

Cold Weather Safety Tips

PREPARATION TIPS

- Have more than one way to get information in an emergency, including a source like a hand-powered NOAA Weather Radio that still works if you temporarily lose electricity during a storm. Other include television, radio, online news sources and smartphone apps like the American Red Cross' all-inclusive Emergency App for Apple and Android.
- Know the snow routes in your area.
- Be prepared to shelter-in-place.
- Items for winter storms to add to your disaster kit include additional non-perishable food and water for one or two weeks, extra blankets, coats, gloves, winter hats, and water-resistant boots.
- Put a disaster supply kit in your vehicle that includes blankets.
- Keep your pets safe.
- Keep your cellphone charged.
- Open cabinet doors below sinks and let faucets drip if temperatures remain below freezing for a day or more.
- Make sure elderly family members, friends and neighbors are prepared for the storm, and check on them during and after the storm.
- Get extra medication, oxygen or other medical supplies if it's possible you'll need a refill before the storm's effects are over.

DRIVING SAFETY TIPS

- Use extra caution when driving over bridges and overpasses.
- Turn off your automatic sprinkler systems.
- Remember that posted speed limits are only to be followed during ideal weather conditions. Slow down while driving on snow or ice.
- Give salt trucks plenty of room – stay at least 100 feet behind them so salt won't get thrown on your car.
- Plan ahead by getting up and leaving the house earlier.
- Keep at least a three-car distance from the car in front of you
- Steer and brake more slowly than usual.
- Keep warm shoes and clothes in your car.
- Clear all snow and ice from your vehicle before setting out.
- Proceed carefully through intersections.
- Have a plan if you slide off the road – who are you going to call?

SAFELY USE ALTERNATIVE HEATING SOURCES

- Make sure working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are properly installed in your home.
- Give space heaters their space. Keep combustible material at least three feet away from the heater.
- Keep all combustible materials off of floor furnaces.
- Remove any combustibles from central heater closets.
- Use an approved metal or glass screen in front of fireplaces to prevent embers from flying out of *the fire-box*.
- Remember to open the damper before lighting the fireplace.

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