

Emergency Preparedness – Winter Edition

January 2022



During extremely cold weather and / or winter storms, staying warm and safe can be a challenge. Winter storms can bring cold temperatures, power failures, loss of communication services, and icy roads. To keep yourself and your loved ones safe, you should know how to prepare your home and your car before a winter storm hits. Be prepared before a winter storm hits by planning. If you are in an area prone to winter weather, be sure to [create a communication and disaster plan](#) for your family ahead of time.

Pet Safety – it is important to have the [basic survival items](#) ready for your pets in the case of an emergency. You should have everything needed to keep your pets happy, healthy, and comfortable. It is important to review your kits regularly, especially when storing food, water, medicine, and any other items that have the potential to expire. Creating a routine of checking on and changing out these items (if needed) every few months will ensure your pet survival kit will be ready when you need it.



WINTER STORMS

What Can I Do?

Prepare Your Home



Make your home winter ready. Buy needed supplies before the storm arrives. Have a plan in case you lose power or are unable to leave your home.

Monitor Your Forecast



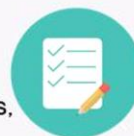
Stay up to date with the latest forecast information as the storm approaches, monitor your favorite source for weather information.

Prepare Your Vehicle



Make your vehicle weather ready. Be sure to include a safety kit, cold weather gear, and all the necessities you may need to deal with the storm ahead.

Have A Plan



Before weather threatens, be sure to have a communications plan, change travel plans, and prepare for the impacts to your routine.

Know The Terms

Winter Storm Watch: There is potential of a significant winter weather event. Conditions are possible but not imminent.

Winter Weather Advisory: Winter weather is imminent and may cause inconveniences.

Winter Storm Warning: A significant winter storm is imminent and is a danger to life and property.

Blizzard Warning: A significant winter storm with strong winds, snow, and low visibility is imminent and is a danger to life and property.

Ice Storm Warning: Dangerous ice accumulations are imminent