

# Winter Weather Safety Rules

- **Keep ahead of advancing winter weather** by listening to NOAA Weather Radio or local radio stations.
- **An ice storm can take down power lines knocking out electricity.** Check battery powered equipment before the storm arrives.
- **Check your supply of heating fuel.** Fuel carriers may not be able to reach you due to closed roads.
- **Be careful when using fireplace, stoves, or space heaters.** Proper ventilation is essential to avoid a deadly build-up of carbon monoxide. Don't use a gas oven or charcoal burners to heat your home as they give off deadly amounts of carbon monoxide. Keep flammable material away from space heaters.
- **If operating a generator follow manufacturer's directions carefully.** Do not operate inside the home or in any enclosed place like garage or carport. Keep as far from the house as possible with exhaust pointed away from doors and windows. Do not refuel a generator when it is hot.
- **Check your food and stock an extra supply.** Include food that requires no cooking in case of power failure. If there are infants or people who need special medication at home, make sure you have a supply of the proper food and medicine. Be sure pets and animals have shelter and a water supply.
- **Dress for the conditions when outdoors.** Wear several layers of light-weight, warm clothing: layers can be removed to prevent perspiring and subsequent chill.

- **Don't kill yourself shoveling snow.** It is extremely hard work for anyone in less than prime physical condition. It can bring on a heart attack, a major cause of death during and after winter storms.

## Automobiles

- **Your automobile can be your best friend or worst enemy during winter storms.** Get your car winterized before winter arrives. The following items should be checked; ignition system, cooling system, fuel system, battery, lights, tires, heater, brakes, wipers, defroster, oil, exhaust. Keep water out of your fuel tank by keeping it full.
- **If you travel often during winter, carry a winter storm kit in your car.** It should include; flashlight, windshield scraper, paper towels, extra clothes, matches/candles, booster cables, compass, maps, sand, chains, blankets, high calorie non-perishable food.
- **Winter travel by car is serious business.** If the storm exceeds or tests your driving ability, seek available shelter immediately.
- **Plan your travel.** Try not to travel alone and drive in convoy when possible.
- **Drive carefully and defensively.** Pump your breaks when trying to stop on snow or ice covered roads.



*For more information contact:*

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