Steps for Winter Preparedness - 2015

Edited by Dr. Jacqueline McBride, CEM, CPM, CBI, CVA For NANBPWC, Inc.

To connect with your, click here: State Office of Emergency Management, Local Office of Emergency Management, and American Red Cross

Click below for more information on winter weather information and alerts and to find a list of frequencies used for weather alerts from the NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR):

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR)

News on Winter Weather from NOAAWatch, NOAA’s Weather-Ready Nation, NOAA’s Weather-Ready Nation’s Winter Safety Campaign

Winter Weather Safety and Awareness

Watch this short video on Preparing an Emergency Kit for your vehicle

Click here to Stay Safe in High Winds – Weather Ready Video

Winter Weather Alert

Click below for Winter Weather Health and Safety Tips, Steps to Take, and Related Resources from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

Extreme Cold: A Prevention Guide to Promote Your Personal Health and Safety
Be Ready for Winter

Winter is Coming Icons eCard, Send a Winter Weather eCard and CDC Winter is Coming eCard

Winter Weather Checklists, Winter Weather Communications Checklist, and Winter Weather Car Maintenance Checklist

Be Prepared for Winter Weather and Disaster Supply Kit

Before the Storm

Winter Weather Public Service Announcements (PSAs) and Podcasts

During the Storm

After the Storm and Preventing Chair Saw Injuries During Tree Removal After a Disaster

Cleanup After a Storm

Hypothermia Tips, Frostbite Tips and Seasonal Influenza (Flu)

Winter Frequently Asked Questions

Winter Weather Related Links and Resources

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning After a Disaster

Preventing Carbon Monoxide Poisoning After an Emergency

Power Outages and Worker Safety in a Power Outage

Health and Safety Concerns for All Disasters

Winter Weather Widget – Get it Now

Prepare Your Car for Winter and Prepare Your Home for Winter Weather

Click below for Winter Weather Health and Safety Tips, Steps to Take, and Related Resources from the Federal Emergency Management Agency: FEMA YouTube on Weather Safety
Are You Ready?

Resolve To Be Ready in 2015

**Winter Storms & Extreme Cold** (Winterize Your Vehicle and Home, Know the Terms, and Carbon Monoxide)

Video: [Portable Heater Safety](#)

Build a Kit and [Disaster Supplies Kit](#)

Make Family Communications Plans

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Click below for Winter Weather Health and Safety Tips, Steps to Take, and Related Resources from the American Red Cross:

- Winter Storm Preparedness
- Power Outage Checklist
- Frostbite and Hypothermia
- Winter Storm Safety Checklist
- Winter Storm Safety Checklist - Arabic
- Winter Storm Safety Checklist - Chinese
- Winter Storm Safety Checklist - French
- Winter Storm Safety Checklist - Haitian
- Winter Storm Safety Checklist - Korean
- Winter Storm Safety Checklist - Spanish
- Winter Storm Safety Checklist - Tagalog
- Winter Storm Safety Checklist - Vietnamese
Click below for a message from 2 messages from The Salvation Army. [Getting Ready for Winter Storms and Extreme Cold from The Salvation Army](#)

Tips from the [Department of Health and Human Services Winter Weather Preparedness](#)

[Winter Weather Tips by AccuWeather, Inc.](#)

[Safe Winter Driving](#)

U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: [Checklist and Tips for Safe Winter Driving](#)

National Safety Council Tip on [Winter conditions call for careful driving tactics](#)

Allstate on [Weathering the Storm: Safety Tips for Ice and Snow](#)

[Are you ready for Winter Rainy Season? Learn More](#)

**From our Friends at: Just In Time Disaster Training – Library - Videos**

Click the following links to learn more about Winter Weather Preparedness & Response

- Weather forecasts apps for your cell phone and tablets
- [Winter Weather - Preparedness](#)
- [Winter Weather - Home Preparedness](#)
- After Frozen Pipes Burst
- Building a Disaster Supplies Kit
- Building a Influenza (Flu) Emergency Supplies Kit
- Building a Winter Survival Kit for your Car
- Creating a Family Disaster Plan
- [Downed Power Line Safety](#)
- [Fire Safety](#)
- [Food Safety During Power Outages](#)
- Generator Usage / Safety
Department of Energy released their newest venture: the Lantern Live app. Available for Android devices, Lantern Live gives people the ability to report the status and location of nearby fuel stations (alternative and conventional), check their area for power outages and easily access safety tips.

During the week of January 27, 2014, Winter Storm Leon crippled parts of the south. Thousands of travelers were stranded in their vehicles, on highways for hours. Mothers gave birth and were helpless in cars with their children. This served as a reminder to always be prepared in the event you are stranded in your vehicle for long periods of time.

Reminder from our Friends at FEMA: During cold weather, you should take the following precautions:

- “Stay indoors as much as possible and limit your exposure to the cold;
- Dress in layers and keep dry;
- Check on family, friends, and neighbors who are at risk and may need additional assistance;
- Know the symptoms of cold-related health issues such as frostbite and hypothermia and seek medical attention if health conditions are severe;
- Bring your pets indoors or ensure they have a warm shelter area with unfrozen water;
- Make sure your vehicle has an emergency kit that includes an ice scraper, blanket and flashlight – and keep the fuel tank above half full.”
Get the kids involved in preparing for power outages before the winter season:
http://www.ready.gov/kids/know-the-facts/blackouts

Winter Weather Travel Tips

- Follow directions from local officials
- Only travel if necessary
- Keep gas tank full and get car serviced before winter months

BUILD AN EMERGENCY CAR KIT

- Charged cell phone and portable charger
- Snack food and water (for each passenger & pet)
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Radio and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Basic tool kit
- Jumper cables, emergency flares and flags
- Warm clothes and blankets
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Road salt and sand
- Shovel and ice scraper

Ready.gov/winter
From our Friends at Ready.Gov: Home Makeover: Winter Edition

“Just as you would add winter care items to your emergency kit to prepare for the upcoming season, your home can also use a winter makeover [http://www.ready.gov/winter-weather]. Properly preparing your home for cold temperatures can keep you safe and warm, and lower your energy costs. Here are a few tips to follow as the mercury plunges:


* Keep fire extinguishers on hand, and make sure everyone in your house knows how to use them [http://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/extinguishers.html]. House fires pose an additional risk, as more people turn to alternate sources to heat their home; and

* Hire a contractor to check the structural ability of your roof to sustain unusually heavy weight from the accumulation of snow or ice.


After you prepare your home for winter weather, visit America’s PrepareAthon! [http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1408633655071-32caae446efef4ab2f4fccdb55f725c/PrepareAthon_WINTER%20STORMS_HTG_FINAL_508.pdf] for ways to prepare your family!”
Additional Winter Storm Safety Tips from FEMA’s External Affairs:
“This season, there have already been winter storms that left homes and businesses without electricity, leaving residents to find alternate ways to heat homes. Whenever alternate heating methods are used, the risk of having a home fire or exposure to dangerous carbon monoxide increases. The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) advises the following tips to stay safe:

- **Power and Gas Lines**
  - After a storm, avoid power lines that have been damaged or downed.
  - Do not use gas lines that are leaking until they have been inspected.

- **Generators**
  - Only use generators outdoors. Generator fumes contain carbon dioxide that can quickly overwhelm a person.

- **Check to make sure the right size and type of power cords are used.**
- **Never run cords used for a generator under a carpet or a rug.**
- **Ensure that a generator is not connected to another power source, such as a wall outlet.**
- **Keep all chemicals away from the generator for safety purposes.**

- **Candles**
  - Use candles with care, as they can be easily knocked over and start a fire quickly.
  - Consider using battery operated candles instead, as they are a safer alternative.

Visit USFA’s website for more information on safety measures that will keep people safe during a winter storm.”
Disclaimer

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