



WINTER STORM

prep tips





The dangers from winter storms vary across the country, but regardless of where you live you are bound to face some type of winter weather. Winter storms can range from a light snow for a few hours to blizzards lasting for days. Many winter storms bring dangerously low temperatures and strong winds, sleet, ice and freezing rain.

Winter storms can knock out heat, power and communication services from your home, sometimes for days at a time. The National Weather Service refers to winter storms as the “Deceptive Killers” because the majority of deaths are indirectly related to the storm.

To prepare

YOUR HOME

FOR A WINTER
STORM

do the following:



STOCK UP ON SUPPLIES

- ▶ Rock salt to melt ice on walkways.
- ▶ Sand to improve traction.
- ▶ Snow shovels and other snow removal equipment.
- ▶ Sufficient heating fuel. You could become stranded in your home and regular fuel sources may be cut off.
- ▶ A good supply of dry wood for your fireplace or wood-burning stove.
- ▶ Warm clothing and blankets.

MAKE A FAMILY COMMUNICATION PLAN

It is important for each family member to know who to contact, how to get back together and what to do in case of emergency.



HAVE A BATTERY OPERATED RADIO

This will keep you up to date on current watches and warnings.

WINTERIZE YOUR CAR

Have a mechanic check your battery, antifreeze, windshield washer fluid, wipers, ignition system, etc. Also, make sure your car has a full tank of gas and tires have adequate tread.

AVOID UNNECESSARY TRAVEL

Most winter deaths related to storms occur in automobiles.

BRING IN PETS

Bring pets inside during winter weather. Move other animals or livestock to sheltered areas with non-frozen drinking water.

These winter tips will help you make decisions that will reduce the risk of accidents during a storm. We hope that you will use these the next time a winter storm hits so that you can better protect your family and yourself.

