

WINTER STORM SURVIVAL CHECKLIST

Winterize your vehicle and keep the gas tank full. A full tank will keep the fuel line from freezing.
Insulate your home from cold air. If storms windows aren't in the budget cover them with plastic to bar drafts.
Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected every year.
If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55° F.
Sand, rock salt or non-clumping kitty litter to make walkways and steps less slippery
Ample alternate heating methods such as fireplaces or wood- or coal-burning stoves
Running water, even at a trickle, helps prevent pipes from freezing. If you have water lines in your garage make sure to keep the garage doors closed.
Opening kitchen & bathroom cabinet doors will allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing to help keep those water lines clear.
Keep the thermostat set to the same temperature both during the day and at night. By temporarily suspending the use of lower nighttime temperatures, you may incur a higher heating bill, but you can prevent a much more costly repair job if pipes freeze and burst.
Avoid driving when conditions include sleet, freezing rain or drizzle, snow or dense fog. If travel is necessary, keep a disaster supplies kit in your vehicle.
Carbon Monoxide can be a killer. Install carbon monoxide alarms in central locations on every level of your home and outside sleeping areas. If the carbon monoxide alarm sounds, move quickly to a fresh air location outdoors or by an open window or door. Call for help and remain in fresh air until emergency personnel arrive.
Never use a generator, grill, camp stove or other gasoline, propane, natural gas or charcoal-burning devices inside a home, garage, basement, crawlspace or any partially enclosed area. Locate unit away from doors, windows and vents that could allow carbon monoxide to come indoors.
Learn the signs & symptoms of frostbite & hypothermia. These are both potentially life-threatening. Take a first aid class if at all possible so you are prepared in a true emergency.
Warm coats, gloves or mittens, hats, boots and extra blankets and warm clothing for all household members.
Go to a designated public shelter if your home loses power or heat during periods of extreme cold.