

# What to do before a Winter Storm

*Be Informed. Make a Plan. Build a Kit.*

## Winter Storms

During Winter Storms, remain indoors if possible. If you must go out, dress accordingly, with layered, wind-resistant clothing, head covering—including your ears—and gloves or mittens to protect yourself against frostbite.

## Winter Storm Safety Tips

- If you must perform work outside, take frequent breaks to warm up, and avoid overexertion.
- Have emergency heating equipment approved for indoor use and appropriate fuel. Gas, kerosene, or propane heaters should not be used indoors because of the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- In case of power loss, have emergency lighting, such as flashlights or lanterns, with a supply of batteries or fuel.
- Keep an emergency supply of ready-to-eat, non-perishable food, and an emergency supply of water on hand. Ensure you have a manual can opener available.

- Listen to your radio or TV for weather and emergency information. Have a battery-powered radio with spare batteries in case your electricity goes out.
- Travel only if absolutely necessary. If you must travel, do so in daylight. Have emergency supplies in your vehicle. Keep a blanket in your vehicle. Consider the use of snow tires or snow chains if appropriate.

## Why Should you be WinterReady

- Sixty-three percent of temperature-related deaths are attributable to cold exposure.
- Home heating is the second leading cause of home fires, and winter is when most home fires happen.
- Travel during the winter has unique risks, especially if you travel by car.



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