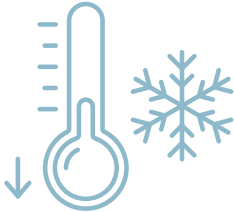




PREPARING FOR WINTER STORMS AND FREEZING WEATHER

Winter storms can happen in every region of the country.

1.



KNOW YOUR RISKS

- Know that winter storms can happen early fall to late spring
- Sign up for emergency alerts from the National Weather Service
- Monitor local weather and news for emergency information
- **Find shelter right away when under a winter storm warning**

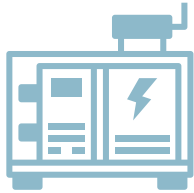
2.



MAKE YOUR PLAN

- Check your emergency supplies annually (see next page for list)
- Purchase flood insurance in case your pipes freeze and flood out
- **Make a plan with neighbors for helping each other**
- Charge your cell phone ahead of a storm
- Limit your time outside if possible when a storm occur
- **Avoid driving during winter storms** unless absolutely necessary

3.



PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES

- Unplug appliances and electronics
- **Do not use gas stovetop or oven to heat home**
- Follow generator safety
- **Purchase a generator** and follow generator safety instructions
- Learn the location of the closest emergency warming center

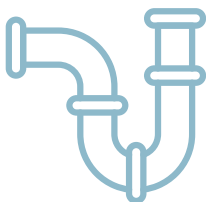
4.



CONDUCT HOME MAINTAINENCE

- Test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors
- Change furnace filters
- Install storm windows if you have them for additional protection
- **Weatherize home with caulk and weather stripping**
- Have heating system and water heater checked
- Get roof inspected to ensure it is in good condition

5.



PROTECT YOUR PIPES

To Prevent Freezing:

- **Insulate pipes, crawl spaces, garages, attics, basements, etc.**
- Increase temperature in home
- Turn faucets on and let trickle
- Open cabinet doors above sinks
- Drain outdoor supply lines

To Thaw Pipes:

- Increase temperature in home
- **Thaw pipes slowly**
- Apply heat to frozen sections



6. GATHER SUPPLIES



HOME EMERGENCY KIT AND SUPPLIES

PERSONAL INFORMATION AND CASH

Keep personal and financial records easy to access (hard copies or securely backed up)

- Copy of photo ID
- Important legal documents
- Important financial documents
- Credit cards and cash

FOOD AND WATER

Have at least two weeks of supplies since stores may be closed and it is unsafe to travel

- Non-perishable food
- Non-electric can opener
- A supply of bottled water (one gallon per person per day)
- Supplies for pets (including extra food and water)

CLOTHING AND WARMTH

Ensure enough clothing for everyone in your household including if clothes get wet

- Gloves, hat, scarf, extra layers, etc.
- Extra blankets
- Thermal heat blanket
- Space heater

CAR EMERGENCY KIT AND SUPPLIES

- First aid kit
- Bottled water
- Snacks
- Blankets or sleeping bags
- Gloves, hat, scarf, extra layers, etc.
- Flashlight
- Cell phone charger
- Map(s) of the area
- Whistle
- Flares, emergency distress sign
- Ice scraper
- Jumper cables
- Full tank of gas
- Tool kit
- Tow chains or rope
- Tire chains
- Spare tire
- Snow shovel

TO GO KIT

If you need to leave home and go somewhere else to stay warm, pack at least three days of supplies to carry with you (e.g. clothes, food, water, chargers, medications)

MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND SAFETY

Have a 1-month supply of prescription medications in case you cannot leave home

- Medications and medical items
- First aid kit
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items
- List of doctors and medications
- Special supplies for infants, elderly or disabled family members
- Fire extinguisher

POWER AND COMMUNICATION

Prepare to lose electric power

- Flashlight and batteries
- Candles and matches
- Battery-powered radio and batteries
- Cell phone with chargers
- Generator
- Heavy-duty extension cords

OUTDOOR SUPPLIES

Use these supplies to keep walkways safe

- Shovel or snow blower
- Ice melting products

