

How to Prepare for a Winter Storm

Prepare

WHAT TO DO

- **Sign up** for local alerts and warnings
 - Learn the difference between Warnings, Watches and Advisories
- **Create and test** emergency communication plans
- **Stock up** on emergency supplies
 - Create winter emergency supplies kits for yourself, home and car
- **Winterize** your home
 - Make sure your pipes are insulated and CO detectors are properly installed
- **Review** and safeguard critical documents
 - Don't forget to have copies on hand in your emergency supplies kits
- **Get trained** on specific needs for yourself and/or family
- **Identify** a location where you can go to warm up should your house lose heat

During

WHAT TO DO

- **Stay indoors** and off roads
 - If you must drive, don't forget to keep an emergency supplies kit in your car
- **Close off unused rooms** to conserve heat
- **Dress in layers** and use blankets to keep warm
- **Bring pets inside** and out of the cold
- **Never use a generator** or portable gas-powered heat source inside
 - These items can start accidental fires, cause electric shocks or CO poisoning
- **Never heat** a home with a cook-top oven
- **Limit your time outdoors** and stay dry

After

WHAT TO DO

- **Only drive if necessary**
 - Clean snow and ice off your car before you drive
- **Dress in warm clothing** and avoid going outdoors
 - Prolonged exposure to cold temperatures can lead to hypothermia
- **Monitor local news** alerts for emergency information and instructions