Winter Safety

Winter storms and cold temperatures can be dangerous. Stay safe and healthy by planning ahead.

Prepare your home and cars.
Prepare for power outages and outdoor activity.
Check on older adults.
Keep pets indoors.

Many people prefer to remain indoors during winter, but staying inside is no guarantee of safety. Take these steps to keep your home and car safe and warm during the winter months.

➢ Winterize your home by installing weather stripping, insulation, and storm windows.
➢ Insulate water lines that run along exterior walls.
➢ Clean out gutters and repair roof leaks.
➢ Check car tires for adequate tread. Keep a blanket and flashlight in cars.
➢ Check all your car’s fluid levels, anti-freeze, and window washer fluid.
➢ Check your heating systems.
   o Have your heating system serviced professionally to make sure that it is clean, working properly, and ventilated to the outside.
   o Inspect and clean fireplaces and chimneys.
   o Install a smoke detector. Test batteries monthly and replace them twice a year.
   o Have a safe alternate heating source and alternate fuels available.

Check on older relatives and neighbors to be sure their walks and driveways are shoveled and salted to prevent injury. Get them any food or other supplies they need to be safe in their home.

Remember, if it is too cold for you to stay outside, it is too cold for your pets as well. Let them out to relieve themselves and then bring them back inside. Remove any snow and ice off the pads of their feet and dry them.

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