



# Winter Weather Safety Tips



Winter Weather Awareness Day - November 5, 2015

## ***Be Prepared Before the Storm Strikes!***

When preparing your home or workplace for the upcoming winter season, keep in mind that the primary concerns deal with the loss of heat, power and telephone service, along with a shortage of supplies if a winter storm continues for an extended period of time.

### ***Make sure to have the following supplies available:***

- ◆ Flashlight and extra batteries
- ◆ Battery-powered NOAA Weather Radio and portable radio to receive emergency information - these may be your only links to the outside
- ◆ Extra food and water. Have high energy food, such as dried fruit, nuts and granola bars, and food which requires no cooking or refrigeration.
- ◆ Extra medicine and baby items
- ◆ First-aid supplies
- ◆ Heating fuel. Refuel BEFORE you are empty. Fuel carriers may not reach you for days after a winter storm.
- ◆ Emergency heat source: fireplace, wood stove, space heater
  - Use properly to prevent a fire and remember to ventilate properly.
- ◆ Fire extinguisher and smoke alarm
  - Test smoke alarms once a month to ensure they work properly.

### ***On the farm and for pets:***



- ◆ Move animals into sheltered areas.
- ◆ Shelter belts, properly laid out and oriented, are better protection for cattle than confining shelters.
- ◆ Haul extra feed to nearby feeding areas.
- ◆ Have plenty of water available. Animals can die from dehydration in winter storms.
- ◆ Make sure your pets have plenty of food, water and shelter.





# Winter Weather Safety Tips



Winter Weather Awareness Day - November 5, 2015



## **I'm caught outside:**

- ◆ Find shelter!
- ◆ Attempt to stay dry.
- ◆ Cover all exposed body parts.
- ◆ If there is no shelter available:
  - Build a lean-to, windbreak or cave to protect yourself
  - Build a fire for heat and to attract attention
  - Place rocks around the fire to absorb and reflect heat
  - Melt snow for water, eating snow lowers body temperature

## **I'm caught in a vehicle:**

- ◆ Stay in the vehicle! You could quickly become disoriented in wind-driven snow and cold.
- ◆ Run the motor about 10 minutes each hour for heat.
- ◆ Open the window a little for fresh air to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.
- ◆ Make sure the exhaust pipe is not blocked.
- ◆ Be visible to rescuers!
  - Turn on the dome light at night when running the engine
  - Tie a colored cloth, preferably red, to your antenna or door
  - After the snow stops falling, raise the hood to indicate you need help
- ◆ Exercise from time to time, move arms, legs, fingers, and toes vigorously to keep blood circulating and to keep warm.



## **I'm caught inside:**

- ◆ Stay inside! If using alternate heat from a fireplace, wood stove, space heater, etc., be sure to use fire safeguards and properly ventilate.
- ◆ If you don't have heat available:
  - Close off unneeded rooms.
  - Stuff towels or rags in cracks under doors.
  - Cover windows at night.
- ◆ Eat and drink, providing the body with energy and preventing dehydration.
- ◆ Wear layers of loose fitting, lightweight, warm clothing. Remove layers to avoid perspiration and subsequent chill.

