



## Winter Storm Preparedness Tips

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- **Prepare ahead of time so you don't have to go out during the storm event.**
- **Remove vehicles from streets whenever possible to allow for snow removal.**
- **Make sure your home smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms are working before the storm!**
- **Make sure you have rock salt or ice melt, snow shovels, and adequate clothing and blankets to keep you warm.**
- **Bring pets inside during winter weather. Remember, if you are cold, your pet is cold.**
- **Stay indoors during the storm. If you must go out, walk carefully on snowy, icy, walkways.**
- **Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow. Overexertion can bring on a heart attack—a major cause of death in the winter. Use caution, take breaks, push the snow instead of lifting it when possible, and lift lighter loads.**
- **Take a few minutes to clear out fire hydrants near your home – this will save crucial seconds in the event of a fire or other emergency. Make sure you clear a wide enough perimeter for firefighters to work – about three feet around hydrants is sufficient.**
- **Keep dry. Change wet clothing frequently to prevent a loss of body heat. Wet clothing loses all of its insulating value and transmits heat rapidly.**
- **Signs of Frostbite: Occurs when the skin and body tissue just beneath it freezes. Loss of feeling and white or pale appearance in extremities, such as fingers, toes, earlobes, face, and the tip of the nose.**
- **Drive only if it is absolutely necessary. If you must drive: Slow down! Even if roads just look wet they could be very slick; travel in the daylight whenever possible; clear snow and ice completely from your vehicle before traveling; don't travel alone; keep others informed of your schedule; stay on main roads and avoid back road shortcuts.**
- **Keep anything that can burn at least three feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, or space heaters.**
- **If using space heaters, plug only one directly into a wall outlet (never use extension cords or power strips).**
- **Keep portable generators outside, away from windows, and as far away as possible from your house.**

***Visit [Ready.NJ.gov](https://www.Ready.NJ.gov) for more on how to Plan and Prepare!***