

## Emergency Preparedness Pointer November 2015

### Winterize Your Preparedness Knowledge

Nearly every person in the U.S. is going to experience extreme winter weather during their lifetime. Winter storms can bring varying amounts of snow that are often accompanied by below freezing temperatures, ice, sleet, and freezing rain. Severe winter weather can knock out power and communications to your home and office for extended periods of time as well as impacting transportation. This is the perfect time of year to update your emergency kit and supplies to include items you will need for winter storms and extreme cold. Here is a list of things to add to your home supplies:

- ❑ Include rock salt or other environmentally safe substances to melt ice on walkways
- ❑ Sand or kitty litter for traction
- ❑ Snow shovels and other related equipment
- ❑ Identify an alternative heating source in case of a power outage
- ❑ Winter clothes and blankets



### When You Are Caught in the Storm

It is always best to be prepared in case you get stranded in a severe winter storm while driving. Adding these items to your emergency kit in your car will give you the best chance of survival when trapped by a blizzard:

Small shovel	Windshield scraper	Flashlight
Battery radio	Extra Batteries	Water
Snack food	Matches	Extra hats, socks, and mittens
First aid kit	Medications	Blanket(s)
Tow chain or rope	Road salt and sand	Booster cables

For more information about winter storm preparedness, visit <http://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>

### PLAN AHEAD BEFORE YOU TRAVEL



For long distance driving trips it is important to plan ahead. Be sure to watch weather reports and delay trips if bad weather is expected. If it is absolutely necessary to travel, let friends or family know your route and schedule. Be sure to check in with friends or family regularly. You should always keep at least half a tank of gas in your vehicle, and an additional power source to charge a cell phone. If you do get stuck in a storm, stay in your vehicle and place a brightly colored flag or piece of material where rescuers can easily see it. Most importantly, make sure your emergency car kit is winterized to prevent yourself from being left out in the cold. For updates on road conditions, visit <https://adacounty.id.gov/accem/Learn-Local-Hazards/Road-Conditions>

