

Public Service Announcement

WINTER WEATHER SAFETY TIPS

Gallatin County Emergency Management Office
Brandon Terrell, Director



Everyone is potentially at risk during winter storms. Most fatalities are indirectly related to the storm. People die from traffic accidents on icy roads, heart attacks while shoveling snow, and hypothermia from prolonged exposure to cold and unsafe residential conditions.

Be prepared for winter weather! Listen to NOAA weather radio or commercial radio/television to stay informed about winter storm watches, warnings and advisories.

At home and work, plan ahead for winter storms by having these on hand:

- Flashlight and extra batteries
- Battery-backup powered NOAA weather Radio
- AM/FM Radio
- Extra food and water - high energy food such as dried fruit, nuts and granola bars, and food requiring no cooking or refrigeration
- Can opener
- Extra medicine and baby supplies
- First aid kit
- Heating fuel
- Emergency heat source
- Fire extinguisher
- Smoke alarm
- Make sure pets have plenty of food, water, and shelter

If you are already indoors during hazardous winter weather:

- Stay inside!
- When using alternate heat from a fireplace, wood stove, space heater, etc., use fire safeguards and properly ventilate
- Close off unneeded rooms
- Stuff towels or rags in cracks under doors
- Cover windows at night
- Eat and drink - food provides the body with energy for producing its own heat
- Wear layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing

The best advice for traveling during forecasted winter conditions is;

“simply stay at home”. Only travel if necessary. However, if you must:

Before starting out in a vehicle:

- Plan your travel
- Check the weather
- Have road condition phone numbers handy
- Carry a Winter Storm Survival Kit
- Keep the gas tank near full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines
- Avoid traveling alone
- Let someone know your timetable and route

If you are stranded in your vehicle during hazardous winter weather:

- Stay with your vehicle
- Take turns sleeping
- Run the motor every hour for 10 minutes to keep warm
- Keep windows open a little to prevent carbon monoxide buildup
- Make sure the exhaust pipe is not blocked
- Tie a bright cloth to the antenna
- Exercise periodically by vigorously moving your arms, legs, toes and fingers
- Turn on the dome light while the engine is running to aid rescuers at night
- After the snow stops falling, raise the car hood to indicate you need help

A good automobile

Winter Safety Kit includes: cell phone and charger, blankets or sleeping bags, flashlight and extra batteries, first-aid kit, knife, whistle, high-calorie non-perishable food, bottled water, extra clothing to keep dry, large empty can to use as emergency toilet, tissues and paper towels, small can and waterproof matches to melt snow for drinking water, sack of sand or cat litter for traction, shovel, windshield scraper and brush, tool kit, tow rope, battery booster cables, water container, compass and road maps. If stranded, a deck of cards can help keep both children and adults occupied until help arrives. Most of these items can be stored in a duffle bag and placed in the vehicle’s truck.

Dress for the storm if you must be outdoors during severe winter weather:

- Wear loose, lightweight, warm clothes in layers
- Remove layers to avoid perspiration and subsequent chill
- Outer garments should be tightly woven, water repellent, and hooded.
- Wear a hat --half your body heat loss can be from the head.
- Cover your mouth to protect your lungs from extreme cold.
- Mittens, snug at the wrist, are better than gloves.
- Try to stay dry

If you are caught outdoors during hazardous winter weather:

- DO NOT PANIC
- Find shelter
- Try to stay dry
- Cover all exposed body parts
- Build shelter: a lean-to, windbreak or snow cave for protection from the wind
- Build a fire for heat and to attract attention
- Place rocks around fire to absorb and reflect heat
- Melt snow for drinking water -- eating snow will lower your body temperature
- Avoid overexertion - especially when shoveling or freeing stuck vehicles
- Experts suggest staying put and allow rescuers to locate you.

STAY SAFE: Being prepared for winter weather (just like all weather) starts at home. “BE AWARE – BE PREPARED”.

If you lose electrical service during the winter, follow these tips:

1. Call your utility company first to report the power outage and determine area repair schedules. Turn off or unplug lights, appliances, and furnace to prevent a circuit overload when service is restored. Leave one light on to indicate power has been restored.
2. To help prevent freezing pipes, turn the water off to your home or turn on faucets slightly. Running water will not freeze as quickly.
3. Protect yourself from carbon monoxide poisoning:
 - DO NOT operate generators indoors; the motor emits deadly carbon monoxide gas.
 - DO NOT use charcoal to cook indoors. It, too, can cause a buildup of carbon monoxide gas.
 - DO NOT use your gas oven to heat your home – prolonged use of an open oven in a closed house can create carbon monoxide gas.
4. Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible to help reduce food spoilage. As a rule, as long as you do not open the doors, a freezer that is half-full should remain in tact for 24 hours, and freezer that is totally full 48 hours. If the power is going to be off for substantial amount of time, take your food out of the refrigerator or freezer and place it in a cooler outside of your home. As long as the temperature outside remains freezing or below, you should be able to maintain your food’s quality.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE:
The public will take notice that the undersigned has qualified as the Administrator of the Estate of JoAnna Hamm and was appointed on this date 12/3/2024. All persons indebted to, will make their claims six months from this date of appointment.

Appointee: Timothy Hamm
376 Pond Circle Rd.
Owingsville, Ky 40360

Deceased: JoAnna Hamm
108 Red Bud Ct.
Glencoe, Ky 41046
50-1c

PUBLIC NOTICE:
The public will take notice that the undersigned has qualified as the Administrator of the Estate of Sarah Meredith Bingham and was appointed on this date 12/3/2024. All persons indebted to, will make their claims six months from this date of appointment.

Appointee: Harold Bingham
930 Hwy. 42 East
Warsaw, Ky 41095

Deceased: Sarah Meredith Bingham
7678 Bank Lick st.
Florence, Ky 41042

Attorney: Meredith Lawrence
107 East High St.
P.O. Box 1330
Warsaw, Ky 41095
50-1c

PUBLIC NOTICE:
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