

FACT SHEET  
CATEGORY: WINTER STORM

Preparation for a winter storm is the best method for minimizing injury or damage during one. There will be little time to move to protected areas once a winter storm is in the immediate vicinity. Follow these important steps to prepare yourself and your family for the storm.

- Listen to your local radio or television newscasts for the latest information or instructions.
- Learn evacuation procedures and routes for your area.
- Keep your car fueled and in good condition in case evacuation is required
- Have emergency supplies and have them on hand in case a winter storm approaches.
- Keep a snow shovel, rock salt to melt ice, sand to improve traction, flashlights, fresh water, and non-perishable foods handy.
- Prepare for possible isolation in your home.
- Make sure you have emergency heating equipment and fuel so you can keep at least one room in your house warm in the event regular fuel sources are cut off.
- If you have a wood stove or fireplace, store a good supply of dry, seasoned wood.
- If you have a gas furnace or heater, be sure that your fuel supply is abundant.
- Kerosene heaters are another option; however, check with your fire department to see whether they are legal in your community.
- Keep a fire extinguisher on hand and make sure your family knows how to use them.
- Winterize yu home to conserve your fuel supply and same money.
- Insulate walls and attics and caulk and weather-strip doors and windows.
- Have several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight; warm clothing rather than one layers of heavy clothing for each person. Have a good supply of coats, hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves.

For more information about winter storms contact the St. Clair County Office of Emergency Management at 810-989-6965.