

# Winter Storm

Winter storm warnings are reported by your local weatherman. They can be predicted with a reasonable amount of accuracy. Winter storms can bring a lot of snow, sleet, freezing rain, sub-zero temperatures, lots of ice, and even blizzards.

## Things to Know:

- ◆ **Winter Storm Watch:** Heavy snow and ice are very possible over the next couple of days.
- ◆ **Winter Storm Warning:** Severe winter weather has come to the area—Heavy snow and/or ice will begin soon
- ◆ **Blizzard:** Strong winds over 35mph along with snow that reduces the visibility.
- ◆ **Sleet:** Rain that falls and turns into ice before it hits the ground
- ◆ **Freezing Rain:** Rain that falls and turns to ice once it hits the surface.

## Before a Winter Storm:

- ◆ Keep extra blankets, warm clothes, and a lighter or matches around the house. Know where they are located in case you have to find them in a power outage.
- ◆ Keep extra wood around or know how to properly work your gas fireplace.
- ◆ If you rent, make sure you are familiar with the heating system and it is safe to use.
- ◆ Stock up on extra food and water before the storm because the power may go out, or you might be snowed in for a few days.
- ◆ Fuel your car before the storm.
- ◆ Put extra blankets, clothes, ice scraper, extra food, extra water, and a shovel in your car.

## During a Winter Storm:

- ◆ Don't attempt to go out and get something. Once a winter storm starts conditions worsen quickly.
- ◆ Keep updated on situation via internet, TV, or radio.
- ◆ Make sure heat source is safe. Many fires are started each year via unsafe heating.
- ◆ Keep items 3 feet away from heaters.
- ◆ If you are stranded in your car, do NOT attempt to get out and go find help unless its within 100 yards.
- ◆ Run the car 10 minutes each hour to keep warm, but make sure the tailpipe is not blocked or you may suffer from carbon monoxide poisoning.
- ◆ Display a trouble sign, usually a bright piece of clothing will do.
- ◆ Use flood mats for extra insulation.
- ◆ Keep circulation of blood within your body by moving around.
- ◆ If you are with someone, share body heat.