



General Winter Safety

In the Home

- Keep ahead of advancing winter weather by listening to NOAA Weather Radio, the commercial media, or by visiting the NWS on the Internet.
weather.gov
weather.gov/stlouis
- An ice storm will take down power lines knocking out electricity. Check battery powered equipment before the storm arrives.
- Check your food and stock an extra supply. Include food that requires no cooking in case of power failure. If there are infants or people who need special medication at home, make sure you have a supply of the proper food and medicine. Make sure pets and animals have shelter and a water supply.
- If appropriate, check your supply of heating fuel. Fuel carriers may not be able to reach you due to closed roads.
- Be careful when using fireplace, stoves, or space heaters. Proper ventilation is essential to avoid a deadly build-up of carbon monoxide. Don't use charcoal inside as it gives off large amounts of carbon monoxide. Keep flammable material away from space heaters and do not overload electric circuits.
- Dress for the conditions when outdoors. Wear several layers of light-weight, warm clothing: layers can be removed to prevent perspiring and subsequent chill. Outer garments should be tightly woven, waterproof and hooded. For the hands, mittens, snub at the wrists, offer better protection than fingered gloves.
- Don't kill yourself shoveling snow. It is extremely hard work for anyone in less than prime physical condition. It can bring on a heart attack, a major cause of death during and after winter storms.

