

INZ001>092-091500-

Public Information Statement  
National Weather Service Indianapolis IN  
630 AM EST Thu Nov 9 2023

This week is Indiana Winter Weather Preparedness Week.

The outlook for winter indicates an increased potential for above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation.

Every winter carries the threat for a blizzard, major ice storm, extreme cold, extreme flooding, and even tornadoes. Thus it is important to always be prepared.

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security and the Red Cross stress having your disaster plans and emergency preparedness kits ready as your best way to stay safe from winter weather. Your primary concerns are loss of heat, power or a lack of supplies.

At home or work, have at least a three day supply of food that requires no refrigeration or cooking in case of power failure. Have an emergency water supply in case water pipes freeze. Have extra batteries available for flashlights, radios, smoke alarms and cell phones. Have adequate medicine, first aid, and other supplies you may need in case you cannot leave home for a few days.

Have an alternate heating source, like a fireplace, wood stove, space heater, or warm blankets available, in case your primary heating source fails. Have a professional check all heating sources for correct operation and ventilation and follow all manufacturer's operating instructions. If your home requires heating fuel or propane, ensure you have plenty of fuel in case your supplier can not reach you during or after a winter storm. Make sure your fire extinguishers and smoke alarms are working properly.

On the farm, move your animals to sheltered areas, ensuring they have ample food and a water source that will not freeze. Most animal deaths in winter are from dehydration.

In vehicles, items to carry should include blankets or extra clothing for warmth; a first aid kit, flashlight, and booster cables; a shovel and non-clumping cat litter sand to create tire traction if your vehicle gets stuck; bottled water and protein bars for nourishment. You may wish to carry paper products for sanitary purposes; water proof matches, a metal can and candle, for heat and light.

Heed weather forecasts and take action when the National Weather Service issues a watch...warning or advisory. Let's be a Weather-Ready Nation.

On Friday we will discuss outdoor winter weather safety.

Visit [getprepared.in.gov](http://getprepared.in.gov) for more information about winter safety.

\$\$