

# Winter Weather Preparedness Safety Tips

Taking a few basic steps can help prepare you and your family for the winter.

## Take Action

- Weatherproof your home
- Have your chimney or flue inspected each year
- Install a smoke detector and a battery-operated carbon monoxide detector
- In the event of inclement weather:
  - Regularly check on friends and family
  - Keep your cellphone or other devices fully charged
  - If you take prescription medications, ensure you have enough of all medications
  - Bring your pets indoors

## Make A Plan

Discuss with your family how you will respond, stay informed, and contact one another during emergency situations. Consider creating an emergency plan and discussing it at least once a year to make any updates. [Here, you can access a template provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#). Once the plan is completed, please consider laminating a copy and saving a electronic version.

## Build A Kit

Assemble an emergency supply kit with enough supplies for everyone in your house for at least seven days.

**Here are some supplies to consider:**

- Cell phone and portable charger
- Windshield scaper
- Battery-powered radio
- Extra batteries
- First aid kit and medications
- Tire chain
- Jumper cables
- Flashlight
- Water and snacks
- Extra hats, coats, mittens, and blankets
- Shovel
- Road maps
- Pocket knife

## Maintain Situational Awareness

Knowing where you can get reliable information during an emergency is crucial. Visit [ReadyCentralTexas.org](https://www.readycentraltexas.org) to see how to stay informed. You can also [register here](#) to receive emergency notifications about the weather and other public safety events. Finally you can reference [this page](#) for a U.S. winter outlook.

