WINTER WEATHER AWARENESS

Although known for its sunny climate, Texas is not immune from the effects of winter weather. Every year winter weather and storms affect portions of the state, stranding motorists and occasionally shutting down towns and cities. While North Texas and the Panhandle are the most likely to experience winter events, storms can stretch as far as South Texas and the Coastal Bend. Regardless of where you reside make sure you and your family are prepared in case of winter weather events.

Winter Storm Emergency Supplies and Tips

Emergency supplies for a winter or ice storm are similar to supplies needed in an emergency — but there are some additional items. These include kitty litter or sand to keep sidewalks and steps clear of ice, a windshield scraper for the car, warm clothes and extra blankets. Remember, in a severe ice storm, lines may be down and power out for a week or more.

Make sure you have the following basic emergency supplies on hand in preparation for a winter weather event:

• One-week supply of non-perishable food, one gallon of bottled water per person per day, coolers for food and ice storage
• Credit cards and cash (banks and ATMs may not have power)
• Battery-operated radio, NOAA Weather Radio and extra batteries or hand crank radio, cell phones and chargers
• First-aid kit, seven-day supply of prescription medications, copies of prescriptions, special medical items, hearing aids and batteries, eyeglasses
• Manual can opener, knife, tools, booster cables, fire extinguisher, duct tape, tarp, rope, flashlight with extra batteries
• Supplies for babies, the elderly, family members with special health care needs, and food and supplies for pets.

AFTER THE STORM

When severe winter and ice storms strike in Texas, the power may be out for several days. Here are some safety tips for keeping you and your family safe as you wait for power to be restored:

• NEVER operate generators and other fuel-powered devices inside a home or an enclosed space, such as a garage. Unsafe practices could result in a build-up of deadly carbon monoxide fumes. The symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include headaches, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain and confusion. If anyone in your home experiences these symptoms, step outdoors, ventilate the area and call 9-1-1.
• REPORT power outages. Turn off electrical appliances that were operating at the time power went off, including your heating system. Leave one light on to alert you when service is restored.

POWER lines lighted weighted with ice may be down or touching other objects, an extremely dangerous situation. Contact with power lines can charge cables, chain link fences and even tree limbs with electricity. Power lines can electrify a fence throughout an entire neighborhood. Contact your power company for assistance.

• MANY people are injured each year by falling tree branches after any kind of severe storm. Ice storms are no exception. Heavy ice can make tree limbs and trees themselves unstable. Be safe. Wait until the thaw and call a tree care specialist.
JOIN THE CONVERSATION ABOUT THE FUTURE OF BASTROP!

Have you heard about the City's Building Bastrop initiative? Building Bastrop is about guiding responsible development that honors our authentic past and prepares for our sustainable future. As part of the strategic and holistic reform of Bastrop's land-use regulations, every property within the city limits will be rezoned in March 2019.

Simplicity Design led a successful Design Rodeo on November 29-30, and we hope you will plan to participate in our upcoming Code Rodeo on December 13-14 at 924 Main Street!

This is our opportunity as a community to design a local, geographically-sensitive development toolkit that promotes fiscal sustainability. The outcomes from the work at these rodeos will result in land-use regulations that shape the future buildout of Bastrop and its surroundings for decades to come. Your input is critically important.

DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO HELP DESIGN THE FUTURE OF BASTROP!

CityofBastrop.org/BuildingBastrop | BuildingBastrop@CityofBastrop.org | 512-588-8181

AFTER THE STORM (CONTINUED)

REFRAIN from driving on icy roads. If you must travel, drive slowly and increase your stopping distance. Watch for downed trees and power lines across roads. If power fails, treat all intersections as four-way stops. Pack blankets, water, food items and a phone to take with you.

* This information was provided by the Texas Division of Emergency Management.

OUTAGES
512-332-8800

www.cityofbastian.org

TRASH TALK
Solid Waste Service will not run on the following holidays:

Christmas Day, December 25

New Year’s Day, January 1

If your regular service falls on one of these holidays, please note that your service will continue on the following business day of each holiday.

REMINDER: Electronics cannot be disposed of with curbside service. Contact your local "big Box stores".

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