

## COLD WEATHER SAFETY

- **DRESS IN LAYERS**, with a wind resistant outer layer, wear a hat, mittens or insulated gloves. Keep your face warm with a scarf, neck tube or facemask. Wear warm and waterproof footwear. When it is very cold, or when the wind chill is significant, cover as much exposed skin as possible. Your body's extremities, such as the ears, nose, fingers and toes lose heat the fastest.
- Place **SPACE HEATERS** on a level, hard surface and keep anything flammable at least three feet away. Turn off before leaving the room or going to bed.
- **THE KITCHEN IS FOR COOKING.** Never use a stove or oven to heat your home.
- **PROTECT YOUR PIPES.** Run water, even at a trickle, to help prevent your pipes from freezing. Open the kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing. Be sure to move any harmful cleaners and household chemicals out of the reach of children.
- **USE GENERATORS OUTSIDE.** Never operate a generator inside the home, including in the basement or garage.

## Winter Storm, October 4-5, 2013

An early fall, snowstorm caught many by surprise. Warm temperatures of 70-80 early in the week led into a day of rain. Some areas experienced "thundersnow," in the early morning hours on October 4 while the snow began to fall. Snow blanketed Rapid City and the surrounding Black Hills with 23+ inches of heavy, wet snow accompanied by very windy conditions with gusts in excess of 65 mph. Significant snow and ice accumulations/drifts, cooler temperatures, wind-chill, wide-spread power outages, responder fatigue, stranded vehicles, uprooted trees, and downed power lines hindered response and recovery operations. Cattle and other livestock still pasturing in summer pastures suffered the heaviest toll.



Photo Courtesy of CBS News



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Rapid City-Pennington  
County Emergency  
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@penncoem2

Safety Tips for You  
and Your Family

Winter Weather

## VEHICLE KIT

In case you are in your vehicle when an emergency occurs, or you find yourself stranded, keep a vehicle emergency kit in your car. This kit should include:

- Shovel
- Windshield scraper and small broom
- Tow chain or rope
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Battery powered radio
- Water
- Snack foods, including energy bars
- Matches and small candles
- Extra hats, socks and mittens
- First aid kit
- Multi-tool w/ pocket knife, pliers, screwdriver
- Necessary medications
- Blankets or sleeping bag
- Road salt, sand, or cat litter for traction
- Booster cables
- Emergency flares and reflectors
- Fluorescent distress flag and whistle to attract attention
- Cell phone adapter to plug into lighter

Being stuck or stranded in a South Dakota winter storm can become a question of survival. It's serious business and you and your vehicle should always be prepared.



## IF A BLIZZARD TRAPS YOU IN YOUR VEHICLE:

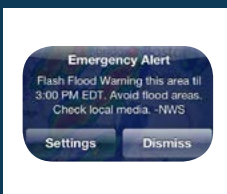
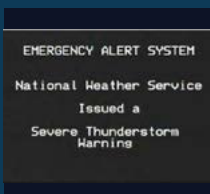
- **STAY IN THE VEHICLE.** Do not attempt to walk in a blizzard. Disorientation comes quickly in blowing and drifting snow. Being lost in open country during a blizzard is extremely dangerous. You are more likely to be found in your vehicle and you will be sheltered there.
- **AVOID OVEREXERTION AND EXPOSURE.** Exertions from attempting to push your stuck vehicle, shoveling heavy drifts, and performing other difficult tasks during strong winds, blinding snow, and the bitter cold of a blizzard may cause a heart attack...even for persons in apparently good physical condition.
- **BE AWARE OF CARBON MONOXIDE.** Burn candles and run the engine and heater sparingly, and only with a down-wind window slightly open for ventilation. Freezing rain, wet snow, and wind-driven snow can completely seal the passenger compartment of your vehicle. Make sure snow has not blocked the exhaust pipe.
- **INSULATE.** Blankets, extra clothing, floor mats, and even newspapers and road maps can be used for extra warmth. Exercise by clapping your hands and moving your arms and legs from time to time, and do not stay in one position for long. Don't overdo it. Exercise warms you but also increases body heat loss.
- **TAKE TURNS KEEPING WATCH.** If more than one person is in the vehicle, don't all sleep at the same time. If alone, stay awake as long as possible.
- **TURN ON THE INTERIOR LIGHT AT NIGHT.** It will help make your vehicle more visible to rescue and work crews.

## EMERGENCY MESSAGING

TV and Radio  
EAS Notification

Weather Radio  
All-Hazards

Wireless  
Emergency Alert



Outdoor Warning Sirens

Public Warning Messages



### Public Warning Messages

Get warnings when you need it and how you want it.

Registration is simple. You pick the delivery method: text, email or phone call.

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