



FREEZING TEMPERATURE AWARENESS

FORT GORDON GARRISON SAFETY OFFICE

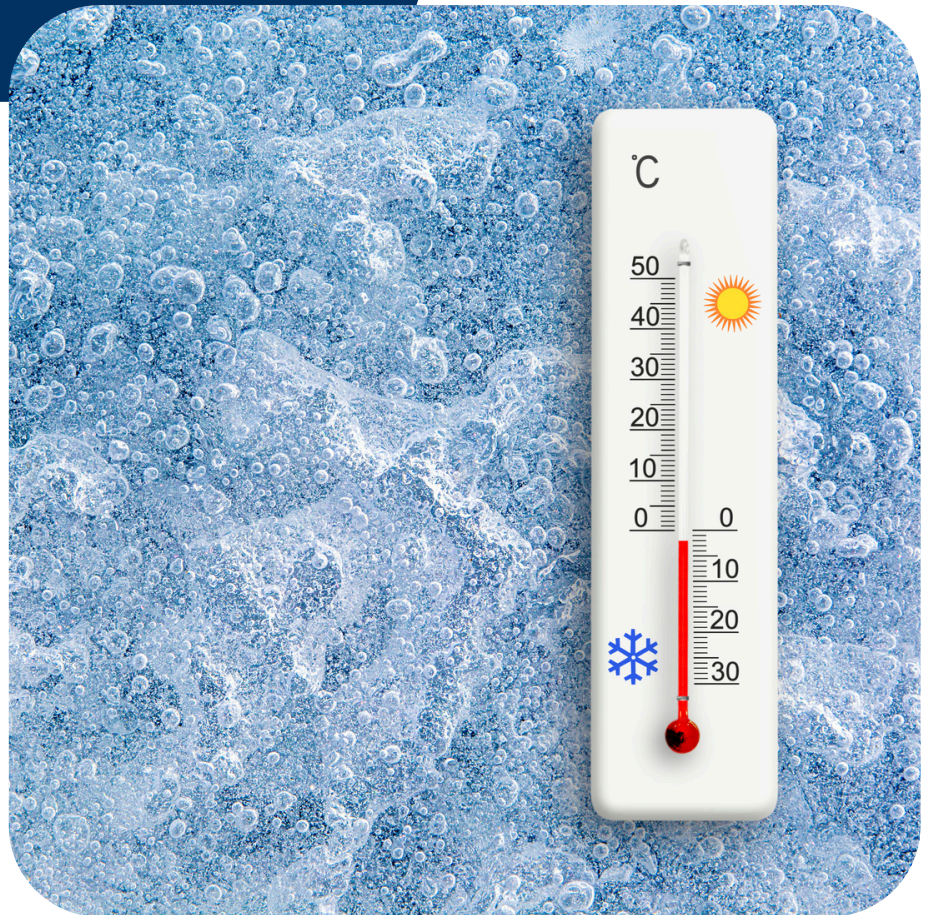
WINTER 2025

**FREEZING
TEMPERATURES
HOME
PREPARATION TIPS**

**HOME HEATING FIRE
PREVENTION**

**WINTER DRIVING
SAFETY TIPS**

**A PET FRIENDLY
WINTER**





As we inch closer to the official Winter season, temperatures are starting to drop to freezing temperatures overnight and into the mornings. With those drops in temperatures, safety concerns arise such as preparing our homes, preventing fires while heating, driving on icy or snowy roads, as well as reminders of ways to keep outdoor animals and pets safe from freezing temperatures. Check out our flyers as reminders of how you can put safety first and keep warm.

FREEZING TEMPERATURES PREPARATION

AND SAFETY TIPS FOR HOMEOWNERS





BEFORE THE FREEZE



- **Fill your car and generator with gas**—Keep extra fuel handy in approved containers and in a safe location. 
- **Insulate exposed pipes**—Use pipe insulation, blankets, Styrofoam or swimming pool water noodles.
- **Shut off outdoor water sources**—To help prevent freezing, turn off the water to outdoor faucets. Know where the indoor water shutoff valve is in case you need to use it. 
- **Park your car in the garage.**



AFTER THE FREEZE

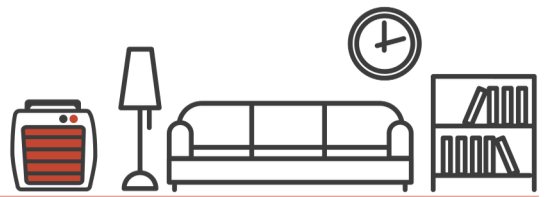
- **If there is flooding**—
 - Clean up pools of water. 
 - Dry damp areas to prevent mold and mildew.
 - Move damp items outdoors when safe to prevent mold growth. 
 - Move items away from damp areas.

DURING THE FREEZE

- **Close all doors and windows.** 
- **Keep the heat at 55 degrees or higher**—Close entries to unheated spaces to prevent frozen pipes.
- **Leave cabinet doors open under sinks**—Help keep pipes at a warmer temperature.
- **Use generators outside**—Operate generators where exhaust fumes can't enter through window or door cracks.
- **Set faucets to a slow drip**—Let water faucets drip slightly for interior pipes to keep water moving through pipes that are easily frozen. 
- **Thaw frozen pipes**—If pipes are frozen (but have not burst), thaw them using a hairdryer, heat lamp or space heater. Do not leave heat sources unattended.
- **Turn off the water if pipes burst.**



HOME HEATING FIRE PREVENTION TIPS



Heating equipment caused an estimated **56,000 home fires** and caused **470 deaths** between 2009 and 2013.* Learn how to stay safe.

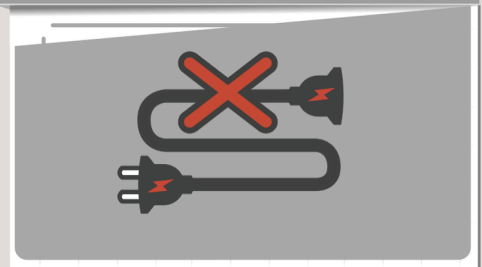
Keep anything that can burn at least **3 feet** from heat sources.



NEVER leave a space heater **unattended**. Turn off when leaving a room or sleeping.



NEVER plug a space heater into an **extension cord**.



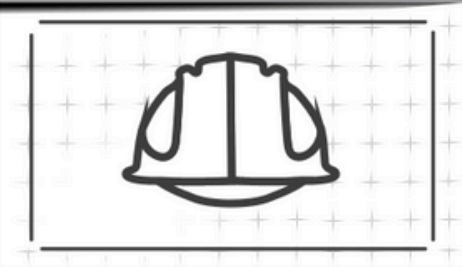
NEVER use a cooking stove to heat your home or dry clothes.



Place heaters on level, flat surfaces **ON THE GROUND**.



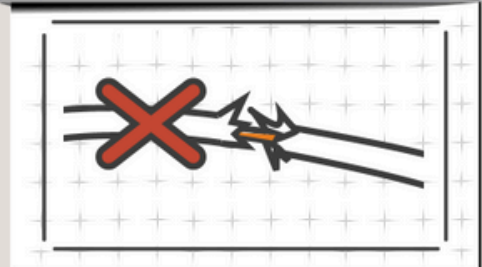
Have a **qualified service professional** inspect your heating system **annually**.



Install and maintain **carbon monoxide alarms**.



Never use a space heater or any appliance with a **damaged cord**.



*According to the National Fire Protection Association

Please share this free resource to save lives



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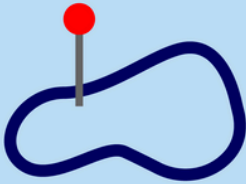
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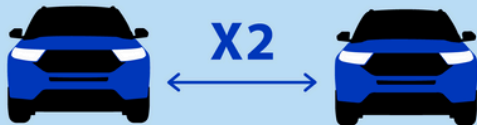
WINTER

DRIVING TIPS



PLAN YOUR ROUTE

Check weather & travel conditions before heading out, especially if traveling a long distance.



DOUBLE DISTANCE

Leave a greater following distance between you and the vehicle in front. Gearing down also helps bring you to a safe stop.

TURN ON HEADLIGHTS

It is critical to see and be seen in low light conditions. Drive with your headlights on!



Did you know?

In winter traffic, a safe following distance is 8-10 seconds.

CHECK UP

Get a complete check-up of: Battery, Ignition System, Lights, Brakes, Tires, Exhaust, Heating & Cooling system, and Windshield Wipers.



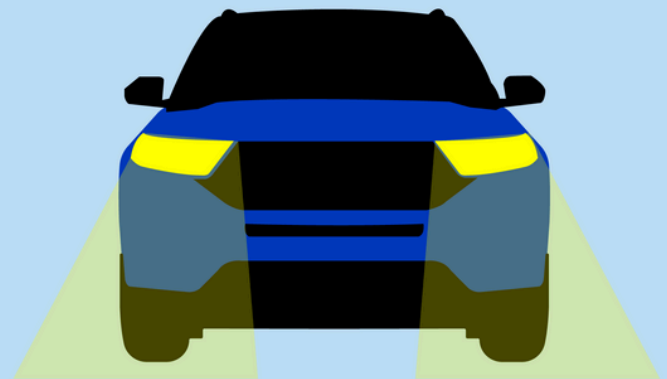
NO CRUISE CONTROL

It's easy to lose control of your vehicle in bad weather if you rely on cruise control.



DON'T SPEED

Drive according to the road conditions around you and don't accelerate or brake too fast.



KNOW YOUR BRAKES IF YOU HIT ICE



Standard Brakes:

steer into the skid and pump your brakes slowly

Anti-Lock Brakes (ABS):

steer into the skid and apply steady pressure, do not pump

Pet Friendly Winter Tips

HIDING IN THE HOOD

Warm engines attract cats and small animals. Bang on your hood before starting the engine.

PAW PATROL

Check regularly and wipe away salt after outdoor walks.



LIMIT CAR TRAVEL

Never leave your pet in your car.



GET COZY

Provide warm beds for naps.



BE ALERT

Signs of hypothermia include: shivering, whining, sluggish or anxious behavior.



SWEATER WEATHER

Play dress up with cozy sweaters and coats.



STORM PREP

Create disaster kit with food, water and medication that can last 5 days.



STAY INDOORS

Keep cats and dogs inside.
Consider providing dry, well-insulated shelter for feral and neighborhood cats.



GOOD TO KNOW

Short-haired, very young and senior dogs have the greatest risk for problems related to exposure to cold.