

FAST Guide To Emergency Prep: **Winter Storms**

The Dangers Of Winter Storms

Winter storms can bring snow, sleet and freezing rain across the entire United States. Even Hawaii gets snow on its Big Island, and major cities as far south as Atlanta and Dallas have been paralyzed by snow and ice.

This guide offers tips to keep you and your employees safe before, during and after a winter storm.



In 2014 **34,860 workplace falls** were attributed to slipping on **ice, sleet or snow**.



17% of all vehicle crashes are caused by **icy/snowy conditions**.



Before A Winter Storm



Create An Emergency Action Plan

Have a written plan in place in case of a winter storm. All employees should undergo training so they understand where to go and what to do in case of an emergency.

Make An Emergency Preparedness Kit

A basic disaster supply kit will help to prepare you and your employees in the event of a winter storm. The kit should include supplies such as:

Flashlights First aid kits Non-perishable food items
Blankets Water Ice melt Snow shovels Batteries



Prepare Your Facility

If you have adequate warning before the storm arrives, prepare your facility to help minimize any damage caused by the storm and protect your employees.

Insulate water pipes Check heating fuel levels Winterize company vehicles
Use ice melt on walkways, parking lots, etc. Provide shovels for snow & ice removal

During A Winter Storm



Stay Put

Encourage employees to stay where they are during a storm. 70% of ice/snow related deaths occur in automobiles.

Dress For The Weather

Employees should dress in layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing. When working indoors, this kind of clothing should be readily available in the event of a power outage.



Keep Listening

Stay tuned to local radio and TV for weather updates.

After A Winter Storm

Snow Removal

Start by removing snow and ice from parking lots, walkways and any other places that present a possible hazard to employees or visitors while walking or driving.



Avoid Overexertion

Especially during snow/ice removal, be sure to allow your employees frequent breaks to avoid overexertion. Heart attacks while shoveling snow are another leading cause of death due to winter storms.

Visit Your Local Fastenal Store

Winter storms can be lethal. Preparing for severe weather conditions and responding to them effectively can reduce the dangers caused by winter storms.

Each of our 2,600+ locations is a convenient, one-stop source for everything you'll need to minimize injury, navigate the aftermath, and get back up and running. It's local, it's simple, and it just may be the smartest purchase you'll make this year.

