

# Winter Storm Preparedness

*A winter storm in the Charlotte area is expected beginning in late evening of Saturday, January 15, 2022. Now is the time to prepare for winter weather.*

## Before Winter Weather

- Ensure you have enough food, water, medications, and other essentials for your family and pets for at least 72 hours.
- Have emergency supplies in your home. This includes flashlights, batteries, battery operated radio, medical supplies, nonperishable foods, and a fully charged cell phone.
- Gather supplies before winter weather begins - travel may be difficult during and immediately following winter weather.
- For a list of suggested emergency supplies, visit [www.ready.gov/kit](http://www.ready.gov/kit)
- Talk with your family about where to go and how to contact each other if you lose power.
- Bring outdoor pets inside.



## During Winter Weather

### Home Safety

- Do **NOT** use a generator indoors. Keep generators at least 20 feet away from your home and away from vents, windows, and doors.
- Never use a charcoal grill or camping stove indoors.
- Don't use alternative heating methods such as space heaters in an unattended room or while you're sleeping.
- If clearing debris, do not use power tools unless you are fully trained on proper safety procedures.

### On the Road

- Only drive during a winter storm if it is necessary. It is important to keep roads clear for first responders and essential workers.
- Keep an emergency kit and blankets in your car.
- Slow down and leave space between you and other vehicles.
- If you start to slide, do **NOT** panic.
- Call 9-1-1 for emergencies and call 3-1-1 to report downed trees and power lines.

## Stay Informed

- Stay tuned to local news channels and the National Weather Service for updates.
- Subscribe to CharMeck Alerts – visit [CharMeck Alerts Sign up](#).
- Monitor Charlotte-Mecklenburg Emergency Management on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).
- Check the [City of Charlotte](#) and [Mecklenburg County](#) websites for service impact updates.

For more information on how to prepare and stay safe during a winter storm visit [www.ready.gov/winter-weather](http://www.ready.gov/winter-weather).

