

Winter Weather Preparedness

Have a Plan - Make a Kit - Stay Informed

Have A Plan:

- Discuss with your family what to do if a winter storm watch or warning is issued.
- Ensure your family knows meeting places and phone numbers of other family members in case they are separated when a winter storm hits.
- Know what to do if basic services such as water, gas, electricity or telephones are cut off for an extended period of time.
- Understand the hazards of wind chill. Cold temperatures are even more dangerous, and potentially deadly, when combined with strong winds. The lower the temperature and stronger the wind, the more at risk you are.
- Check on family, friends and neighbors, especially the elderly. Make sure they are prepared.
- Plan to bring pets inside during winter weather. Move livestock to sheltered areas with non-frozen drinking water.
- Install and check smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.
- Let faucets drip a little to avoid freezing and know how to shut off water valves if necessary.
- Have an alternate heating method such as fireplace or wood or coal burning stove. Always be cautious using a portable space heater.
- Have your car winterized before winter storm season. Keep your gas tank full for emergency use and to keep the fuel line from freezing.

Make A Kit:

- A cell phone with charger and a battery powered radio.
- Windshield scraper, de-icer, snow shovel and small broom for ice and snow removal.
- Several blankets or sleeping bags.
- Rain gear, warm coats and extra sets of dry clothing, mittens, socks and a cap.
- Non-perishable snacks like dried fruit, nuts and other high energy "munchies."
- Several bottles of water. Eating snow will lower your body temperature. If necessary, melt it first.
- Sand or cat litter for generating traction under wheels and a set of tire chains or traction mats.
- Jumper cables, flashlight with extra batteries, first aid kit and brightly colored cloth to tie to antenna if you get stranded.

Stay Informed:

- Know what National Weather Service winter storm and blizzard watches and warnings mean.
 - A winter storm watch is a message indicating a winter storm is possible in your area.
 - A winter storm warning indicates a winter storm is occurring or will soon occur in your area and could threaten life and property.
 - A blizzard warning means sustained winds or frequent gusts to 35 mph or greater and considerable falling or blowing snow is expected to prevail for a period of three hours or longer.
- Depend on your NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio, along with local radio and television stations, for weather reports.

Good to know links:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov>

<http://www.ok.gov/OEM>

<http://www.fema.gov>

<http://www.forestry.ok.gov/burn-ban-information>

City of Miami Emergency Management

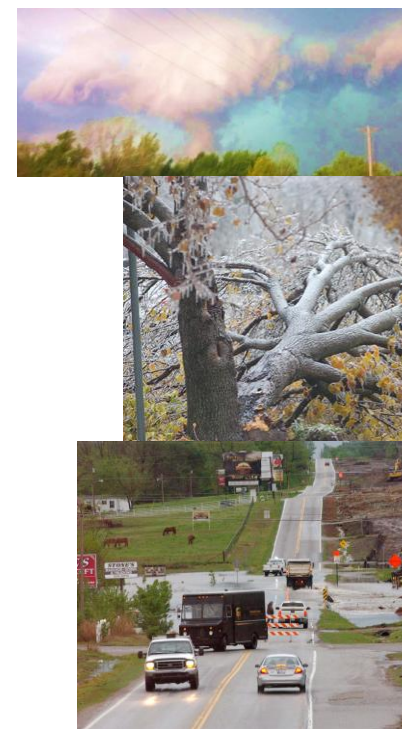
129 5th NW
Phone: 918-541-2275
Fax: 918-542-7133

www.miamiok.org



Emergency Management

BE PREPARED!



Prepare a Disaster Supply Kits

You may consider creating a “go” kit in an easy-to-carry bag and keep in an area near your exit door, or in the car or garage. A “home” kit can be stored in a plastic tub or clean garbage and kept in your home where you will take shelter. Remember to include a hammer or axe should you need to break through debris.

Items to consider including in your disaster supply kits:

- Change of clothing, rain gear, gloves, and sturdy shoes.
- Blankets, bedding or sleeping bags.
- First aid kit and prescription medications
 - (Check expiration dates).
- Extra pair of glasses or contact lenses and solution.
- Special items for infants, the elderly or family members with disabilities.
- Battery-powered radio, flashlight, and extra batteries.
- Pet supplies
- At least a 3-day supply of water.
 - (1 gallon per person per day).
 - Store water in sealed, unbreakable containers. Replace every 6 months.
- A 3-5 day supply of nonperishable packaged or canned food.
 - Also a non-electric can opener.

Create an Emergency Plan

Hold meeting to discuss possible emergency events and how to respond.

Discuss what to do in case of power outages or personal injuries.

Draw a floor plan of your home/apartment and mark two escape routes from each room.

Choose an out-of-state friend or relative whom all family members will call if separated during an emergency.

Pick two meeting places; one near your home and one outside your neighborhood in case you cannot return home after an emergency.

Keep family records in a water and fireproof safe.

After the Storm

Once severe weather has passed, be prepared for possible flooding to occur.

Also, watch for downed power lines.

Never drive into high water.



Outdoor Warning System

Emergency Management operates and maintains the Outdoor Warning System (sirens) for the City of Miami. Sirens are tested each month beginning in the spring to late fall, weather permitting. The sirens are an outdoor warning system only. ***Citizens should use other sources when inside.*** When severe weather is threatening and the sirens are activated, citizens should listen to their NOAA Weather radios or television stations for information and instruction. Additional information can be located on the National Weather site listed in this brochure.

Definition of the terms Watches and Warnings:

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WATCH means severe thunderstorms are possible.

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM WARNING means a severe thunderstorm with ¾ inch or larger hail possible and winds equal or exceed 58 miles per hour.

TORNADO WATCH means that tornadoes are possible.

TORNADO WARNING means a tornado has been sighted.

When a TORNADO WARNING is issued, take shelter in a basement, away from windows. If there is no basement, go to an interior room, like a closet, on the ground floor.