



MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Guidelines for Enduring a Winter Storm: Preparing Your Car

Check the following items on your car:

- Antifreeze levels - ensure they are sufficient to avoid freezing.
- Battery and ignition system - should be in top condition and battery terminals should be clean.
- Brakes - check for wear and fluid levels.
- Exhaust system - check for leaks and crimped pipes and repair or replace as necessary. Carbon monoxide is deadly and usually gives no warning.
- Fuel and air filters - replace and keep water out of the system by using additives and maintaining a full tank of gas.
- Heater and defroster - ensure they work properly.
- Lights and flashing hazard lights - check for serviceability.
- Oil - check for level and weight. Heavier oils congeal more at low temperatures and do not lubricate as well.
- Thermostat - ensure it works properly.
- Windshield wiper equipment - repair any problems and maintain proper washer fluid level.
- Tires - Make sure the tires have adequate tread. All-weather radials are usually adequate for most winter conditions. However, some jurisdictions require that to drive on their roads, vehicles must be equipped with chains or snow tires with studs.
- Maintain at least a half tank of gas during the winter season.

Carry an Emergency Kit

Place a winter emergency kit in each car that includes:

- A shovel
- Windshield scraper and small broom
- Flashlight
- Battery-powered radio
- Extra batteries
- Water
- Snack food
- Matches
- Extra hats, socks, and mittens
- First aid kit with pocket knife
- Necessary medications
- Blanket(s)
- Tow chain or rope

- Road salt and sand
- Booster cables
- Emergency flares
- Fluorescent distress flag