

People caught in avalanches can die from suffocation, trauma, or hypothermia. An average of 28 people die in avalances every winter in the U.S.

An avalanche is a large amount of snow moving quickly down a mountain. People caught beneath the heav snow from an avalanche may not be able to dig out.



Can be caused by people, new snow, and wind.



Can move at speeds of 60–80 mph.



Peak season is December through March.

#### PROTECT YOURSELF FROM AN AVALANCHE

Get training on how to recognize hazardous conditions and locations to avoid.





Use proper equipment. This should include helmets and materials to create pockets of air if trapped.

Learn how to properly use safety equipment.





Use devices to support rescue.

Sign up for alerts on current avalanche dangers.





Use a guide familiar with the area. Always have a buddy.

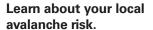






# HOW TO STAY SAFE WHEN AN AVALANCHE THREATENS





Sign up for alerts from a U.S. Forest Service Avalanche Center near you. Your community may also have a local warning system.

Learn the signs of an avalanche and how to use safety and rescue equipment.

Take first aid training to recognize and treat suffocation, hypothermia, traumatic injury, and shock.

**Travel with a guide** who knows the locations to avoid. Always travel in pairs.

Follow avalanche warnings on roads. Roads may be closed or vehicles may be advised not to stop on the roadside.

Know the signs of increased danger, including recent avalanches and shooting cracks across slopes.

Avoid areas of increased risk like slopes steeper than 30 degrees or areas downhill of steep slopes.



Wear a helmet to help reduce head injuries and an avalanche beacon to help others locate you.

Use an avalanche airbag that may create air pockets to give you more space to breathe and help you from being completely buried.

Carry a collapsible avalanche probe and a small shovel to help rescue others.

If your partner or others are buried, call 9-1-1 and then begin to search.

**Treat others** for suffocation, hypothermia, traumatic injury, or shock.



Know the signs and ways to treat hypothermia.

**Hypothermia** is an unusually low body temperature. A body temperature below 95 degrees is an emergency.

- Signs: Shivering, exhaustion, confusion, fumbling hands, memory loss, slurred speech, anddrowsiness.
- Actions: Go to a warm room orshelter. Warm the center of thebody first—chest, neck, head, and groin. Keep the person dry and wrapped up in warm blankets,including the head and neck.

#### Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to **Ready.gov** and search for avalanche. Download the FEMA app to get more information about preparing for an avalanche. To learn of current avalanche conditions in your area, visit www.avalanche.org.









# BE PREPARED FOR AN EARTHQUAKE

Earthquakes can collapse buildings and cause heavy items to fall, resulting in injuries and property damage. Earthquakes are the sudden, rapid shaking of the earth, caused by the breaking and shifting of underground rock.



Can happen anywhere. Higher risk areas are California, Alaska, and the Mississippi Valley.



Give no warning.



Causes fires and damaged roads.



Cause tsunamis, landslides, and avalanches.

IF AN
EARTHQUAKE
HAPPENS,
PROTECT
YOURSELF
RIGHT AWAY.









If in a vehicle, pull over and stop.



If in bed, stay there.



If outdoors, stay outdoors.



Do not get in a doorway.



Do not run outside.







# HOW TO STAY SAFE WHEN AN EARTHQUAKE THREATENS



Secure items such as televisions and objects that hang on walls. Store heavy and breakable objects on low shelves.

Practice Drop, Cover, and Hold On with family and coworkers. Drop to your hands and knees. Cover your head and neck with your arms. Crawl only as far as needed to reach cover from falling materials. Hold on to any sturdy furniture until the shaking stops.

Create a family emergency communication plan that has an out-of-state contact. Plan where to meet if you get separated.

Make a supply kit that includes enough food and water for at least three days, a flashlight, a fire extinguisher, and a whistle. Consider each person's specific needs, including medication. Do not forget the needs of pets. Have extra batteries and charging devices for phones and other critical equipment.

Consider earthquake insurance policies. Standard homeowner's insurance does not cover earthquake damage.

Consider a retrofit of your building if it has structural issues that make it vulnerable to collapse during an earthquake.



Drop, Cover, and Hold On like you practiced. Drop to your hands and knees. Cover your head and neck with your arms. Hold on to any sturdy furniture until the shaking stops. Crawl only if you can reach better cover without going through an area with more debris.

**If in bed, stay there** and cover your head and neck with a pillow.

**If inside, stay there until the shaking stops.** DO NOT run outside.

If in a vehicle, stop in a clear area that is away from buildings, trees, overpasses, underpasses, or utility wires.

If you are in a high-rise building, expect fire alarms and sprinklers to go off. Do not use elevators.

If near slopes, cliffs, or mountains, be alert for falling rocks and landslides.



**Expect aftershocks** to follow the largest shock of an earthquake sequence.

Check yourself for injury.

If in a damaged building, go outside and quickly move away from the building.

Do not enter damaged buildings.

If you are trapped, send a text or bang on a pipe or wall. Cover your mouth for protection and instead of shouting, use a whistle.

If you are in an area that may experience tsunamis, go inland or to higher ground immediately after the shaking stops.

Save phone calls for emergencies. Wear sturdy shoes and work gloves.

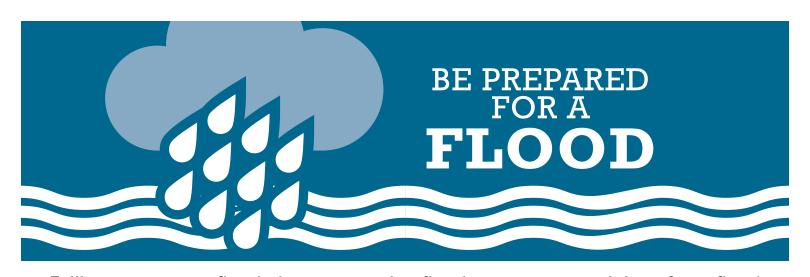
#### Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to **Ready.gov** and search for earthquake. Download the FEMA app to get more information about preparing for an earthquake.









Failing to evacuate flooded areas, entering flood waters, or remaining after a flood has passed can result in injury or death. Flooding is a temporary overflow of water onto land that is normally dry. It is the most common natural disaster in the U.S.



Results from rain, snow, coastal storms, storm surge, and overflows of dams and other water systems.



Develops slowly or quickly. Flash floods can come with no warning.



Causes outages, disrupt transportation, damage buildings, create landslides.

## IF YOU ARE UNDER A FLOOD WARNING, FIND SAFE SHELTER RIGHT AWAY.

Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters.





Stay off bridges over fast-moving water.

Determine your best protection based on the type of flooding.



Evacuate if told to do so.



Move to higher ground or a higher floor.



Stay where you are.







### WHEN A FLOOD THREATENS



Know your area's type of flood risk. Visit FEMA's Flood Map Service Center at https://msc.fema.gov/ portal for information.

Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

If flash flooding is a risk in your location, monitor potential signs such as heavy rain.

Learn and practice evacuation routes, shelter plans, and flash flood response.

Gather supplies in case you have to leave immediately or if services are cut off. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Don't forget the needs of pets. Obtain extra batteries and charging devices for phones and other critical equipment.

**Obtain flood insurance.** Homeowner's policies do not cover flooding. Get flood coverage under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Keep important documents in a waterproof container. Create password-protected digital copies.

**Protect your property.** Move valued items to higher levels. Declutter drains and gutters. Install check valves. Consider a sump pump with a battery.



Depending on where you are, and the impact and the warning time of flooding, go to the safe location that you have identified.

If told to evacuate, do so immediately. Never drive around barricades. Local responders use them to safely direct traffic out of flooded areas.

**Listen to EAS, NOAA Weather Radio,** or local alerting systems for current emergency information and instructions.

Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Turn Around. Don't Drown. Just six inches of fastmoving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.

Stay off of bridges over fast-moving water. Fast-moving water can wash bridges away without warning.

If your vehicle is trapped in rapidly moving water, stay inside. If water is rising inside the vehicle, seek refuge on the roof.

If trapped in a building, go to its highest level. Do not climb into a closed attic. You may become trapped by rising floodwater. Go on the roof only if necessary. Signal for help.



Listen to authorities for information and instructions.

Avoid driving, except in emergencies.

Be aware that snakes and other animals may be in your house. Wear heavy gloves and boots during clean up.

Avoid wading in floodwater, which can contain dangerous debris and be contaminated. Underground or downed power lines can also electrically charge the water.

Use a generator or other gasoline-powered machinery ONLY outdoors and away from windows.

Be aware of the risk of electrocution. Do not touch electrical equipment if it is wet or if you are standing in water. If it is safe to do so, turn off the electricity to prevent electric shock.

### Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to **Ready.gov** and search for flood. Download the FEMA app.









Threats from hurricanes include powerful winds, heavy rainfall, storm surges, coastal and inland flooding, rip currents, tornadoes, and landslides.

Hurricanes are massive storm systems that form over warm ocean waters and move toward land. The Atlantic hurricane season runs June 1 to November 30.

The Pacific hurricane season runs May 15 to November 30.



Can happen along any U.S. coast or territory in the Atlantic or Pacific.



Can affect areas more than 100 miles inland.



Most active in September.

## IF YOU ARE UNDER A HURRICANE WARNING, FIND SAFE SHELTER RIGHT AWAY.

Determine your best protection for high winds and flooding.



Evacuate if told to do so.



Take shelter in a designated storm shelter or an interior room for high winds.



Listen for emergency information and alerts.



Only use generators outdoors a nd away from windows.



Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters.







### WHEN A HURRICANE THREATENS



Know your area's risk from hurricanes.

Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

If you are at risk for flash flooding, watch for signs such as heavy rain.

Practice going to a safe shelter for high winds, such as a FEMA safe room or ICC 500 storm shelter. The next best protection is a small, interior, windowless room in a sturdy building on the lowest level that is not subject to flooding.

Based on your location and community plans, make your own plans for evacuation or sheltering in place.

Become familiar with your evacuation zone, the evacuation route, and shelter locations.

Gather needed supplies for at least three days. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Don't forget the needs of pets.

Keep important documents in a safe place or create password-protected digital copies.

Protect your property. Declutter drains and gutters. Install check valves in plumbing to prevent backups. Consider hurricane shutters. Review insurance policies.



If told to evacuate, do so immediately. Do not drive around barricades.

If sheltering during high winds, go to a FEMA safe room, ICC 500 storm shelter, or a small, interior, windowless room or hallway on the lowest floor.

If trapped in a building by flooding, go to the highest level of the building. Do not climb into a closed attic. You may become trapped by rising flood water.

**Listen** for current emergency information and instructions.

Use a generator or other gasoline-powered machinery ONLY outdoors and away from windows.

Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Turn Around. Don't Drown.® Just six inches of fast-moving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.

Stay off bridges over fastmoving water.



**Listen to authorities for information** and special instructions.

**Be careful during clean-up.** Wear protective clothing and work with someone else.

Do not touch electrical equipment if it is wet or if you are standing in water. If it is safe to do so, turn off electricity at the main breaker or fuse box to prevent electric shock.

Avoid wading in flood water, which can contain dangerous debris.
Underground or downed power lines can also electrically charge the water.

Save phone calls for emergencies. Phone systems are often down or busy after a disaster. Use text messages or social media to communicate with family and friends.

**Document any property damage** with photographs. Contact your insurance company for assistance.

### Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to **Ready.gov** and search for hurricane.

Download the FEMA app to get more information.









Landslides cause 25–50 deaths and more than a billion dollars in damage each year.

A landslide is rocks, earth, or other materials moving down a slope. A mudflow is a landslide that is combined with up to 60 percent water.



Can strike with little to no warning.



Travel 55-100 miles per hour.



Caused by rain, earthquakes, volcanos, or changes to the land.



Can result from flooding.

## IF YOU ARE UNDER A LANDSLIDE WARNING, FIND SAFE SHELTER RIGHT AWAY.

Evacuate early to avoid landslide risk.





Listen for emergency information and alerts.

Watch for signs of landslide.





Watch for flooding.







### WHEN A FLOOD THREATENS



Know the landslide risk in your area. Contact officials for information on local landslide hazards. Ask whether there is a landslide map of your area

or how to get your property checked.

**Learn about the types and signs** of landslides common in your area.

Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

Know your community's landslide evacuation plans. Practice driving evacuation routes and identify shelter locations.

Gather supplies in case you have to leave immediately or if services are cut off. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Do not forget the needs of pets.

Avoid building in areas at risk for a landslide, such as steep slopes or property close to cliffs, or near drainage ways or streams.

**Plant ground cover and build walls** to direct the mudflow around buildings.

Keep important documents in a safe place. Create password-protected digital copies.

**Review insurance coverage**. Landslide damage may not be covered.



Monitor the area for signs of potential slide activity.

These can include cracks or bulges in the ground, street pavement, or sidewalks; soil moving away from foundations; tilting of patios or foundations; broken water lines; or leaning telephone poles, trees, walls, or fences.

Evacuate an area immediately after authorities tell you to. Signs of a landslide may not be visible, but the

danger still exists.

Watch for flooding. Floods

sometimes follow landslides because they may be started by the same event.

Listen to EAS, NOAA Weather Radio, or local alerting systems for current emergency information and instructions.



**Listen to authorities** to find out if it is safe to return.

Save phone calls for emergencies. Phone systems are often down or busy after a disaster. Use text messages or social media to communicate with family and friends.

Stay away from downed power lines and report them immediately.

### Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to **Ready.gov** and search for **landslide**. Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a **landslide**.









# POWER OUTAGE



Extended power outages may impact the whole community and the economy.

A power outage is when the electrical power goes out unexpectedly.



May disrupt communications, water, transportation.



May close retail businesses, grocery stores, gas stations, ATMs, banks, and other services.



Can cause food spoilage, water contamination.



Can prevent use of medical devices.

#### PROTECT YOURSELF DURING A POWER OUTAGE

Keep freezers and refrigerators closed.





Disconnect appliances and electronics to avoid damage from electrical surges.

Only use generators outdoors and away from windows.





Use alternate plans for refrigerating medicines or power-dependent medical devices.

Do not use a gas stove to heat your home.





If safe, go to an alternate location for heat or cooling.



Check on neighbors.







# HOW TO STAY SAFE WHEN A POWER OUTAGE THREATENS



**Take an inventory now** of the items you need that rely on electricity.

Talk to your medical provider about a power outage plan for medical devices powered by electricity and refrigerated medicines. Find out how long medication can be stored at higher temperatures and get specific guidance for any medications that are critical for life.

Plan for batteries and other alternatives to meet your needs when the power goes out.

Sign up for local alerts and warning systems. Monitor weather reports.

Install carbon monoxide detectors with battery backup in central locations on every level of your home.

Determine whether your home phone will work in a power outage and how long battery backup will last.

Review the supplies that are available in case of no power. Have flashlights with extra batteries for every household member. Have enough nonperishable food and water.

Use a thermometer in the refrigerator and freezer so that you can know the temperature when the power is restored.

Keep mobile phones and other electric equipment charged and gas tanks full.



Keep freezers and refrigerators closed. The refrigerator will keep food cold for about four hours. A full freezer will keep the temperature for about 48 hours. Use coolers with ice if necessary. Monitor temperatures with a thermometer.

Use food supplies that do not require refrigeration.

Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Generators, camp stoves, or charcoal grills should always be used outdoors and at least 20 feet away from windows. Never use a gas stovetop or oven to heat your home.

Check on your neighbors. Older adults and young children are especially vulnerable to extreme temperatures.

Go to a community location with power if heat or cold is extreme.

Turn off or disconnect appliances, equipment, or electronics. Power may return with momentary "surges" or "spikes" that can cause damage.



When in doubt, throw it out!
Throw away any food that has

been exposed to temperatures 40 degrees or higher for two hours or more, or that has an unusual odor, color, or texture.

If the power is out for more than a day, discard any medication that should be refrigerated, unless the drug's label says otherwise. If a life depends on the refrigerated drugs, consult a doctor or pharmacist and use medicine only until a new supply is available.

### Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to **Ready.gov** and search for **power outage**. Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a **power outage**.







# THUNDERSTORM, LIGHTNING, OR HAIL

Lightning is a leading cause of injury and death from weather-related hazards.

Thunderstorms are dangerous storms that include lightning.



Include powerful winds.



Create lightning and hail.



Cause flash flooding and tornadoes.

# IF YOU ARE UNDER A THUNDERSTORM WARNING, FIND SAFE SHELTER RIGHT AWAY

When thunder roars, go indoors.





Pay attention to alerts and warnings.

Move from outdoors into a building or car.





Unplug appliances.



Do not use landline phones.







# HOW TO STAY SAFE WHEN A THUNDERSTORM THREATENS



Know your area's risk of thunderstorms. They can occur year-round and at any hour.

Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

**Identify sturdy buildings close** to where you live, work, study, and play.

**Cut down or trim trees** that may be in danger of falling on your home.

Consider buying surge protectors, lightning rods, or a lightning protection system to protect your home, appliances, and electronic devices.

Secure outside furniture.



When thunder roars, go indoors. A sturdy building is the safest place to be during a thunderstorm.

Pay attention to weather reports and warnings of thunderstorms. Be ready to change plans, if necessary, to be near shelter.

When you receive a thunderstorm warning or hear thunder, go inside immediately.

If indoors, avoid running water or using landline phones. Electricity can travel through plumbing and phone lines.

**Protect your property.** Unplug appliances and other electric devices.

**If boating or swimming**, get to land and find a sturdy, grounded shelter or vehicle immediately.

**If necessary, take shelter in a car** with a metal top and sides. Do not touch anything metal.

Avoid flooded roadways. Turn Around Don't Drown®. Just six inches of fast-moving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.



Listen to authorities and weather forecasts for information on whether it is safe to go outside and instructions regarding potential flash flooding.

Watch for fallen power lines and trees. Report them immediately.

### Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to **Ready.gov** and search for **thunderstorm**, **lightning**, **or hail**. Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for **thunderstorm**, **lightning**, **or hail**.









# BE PREPARED FOR A TSUNAMI

A tsunami can kill or injure people and damage or destroy buildings and infrastructure as waves come in and go out.

A tsunami is a series of enormous ocean waves caused by earthquakes, underwater landslides, volcanic eruptions, or asteroids.



Include powerful winds.



Create lightning and hail.



Cause flash flooding and tornadoes.

#### IF YOU ARE UNDER A TSUNAMI WARNING







If caused by an earthquake, Drop, Cover, and Hold On to protect yourself from the earthquake first.

When thunder roars, go indoors.





Pay attention to alerts and warnings.

Move from outdoors into a building or car.





Unplug appliances.



Do not use landline phones.







### WHEN A TSUNAMI THREATENS



If you live near or visit a coastal area, learn about the tsunami risk. Some at-risk communities have maps with evacuation zones and routes. If you are a visitor, ask about community emergency plans.

Learn the signs of a potential tsunami, such as an earthquake, a loud roar from the ocean, or unusual ocean behavior, such as a sudden rise or wall of water or sudden draining showing the ocean floor.

Know and practice community evacuation plans and map out your routes from home, work, and play. Pick shelters 100 feet or more above sea level or at least one mile inland.

Create a family emergency communication plan that has an out-of-state contact. Plan where to meet if you get separated.

Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

Consider earthquake insurance and a flood insurance policy through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Standard homeowner's insurance does not cover flood or earthquake damage.



If you are in a tsunami area and there is an earthquake, first protect yourself from the earthquake. Drop, Cover, and Hold On. Drop to your hands and knees. Cover your head and neck with your arms. Hold on to any sturdy furniture until the shaking stops. Crawl only if you can reach better cover, but do not go through an area with more debris.

When the shaking stops, if there is a warning, either natural signs or an official warning, move immediately to a safe place as high and as far inland as possible. Listen to the authorities, but do not wait for tsunami warnings and evacuation orders.

If you are outside of the tsunami hazard zone and receive a warning, stay where you are unless officials tell you otherwise.

Leave immediately if you are told to do so. Evacuation routes are often marked by a wave with an arrow in the direction of higher ground.

If you are in the water, grab onto something that floats, such as a raft, tree trunk, or door.

If you are in a boat, face the direction of the waves and head out to sea. If you are in a harbor, go inland.



Listen to local alerts and authorities for information on areas to avoid and shelter locations.

Avoid wading in floodwater, which can contain dangerous debris. Water may be deeper than it appears.

Be aware of the risk of electrocution. Underground or downed power lines can electrically charge water. Do not touch electrical equipment if it is wet or if you are standing in water.

Stay away from damaged buildings, roads, and bridges.

**Document property damage** with photographs. Conduct an inventory and contact your insurance company for assistance.

Save phone calls for emergencies. Phone systems are often down or busy after a disaster. Use text messages or social media to communicate with family and friends.

### Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to **Ready.gov** and search for **tsunami**. Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a **tsunami**.









A volcanic eruption may release acid, gases, rocks, and ash into the air. Lava and debris can flow at up to 100 mph, destroying everything in their path.

A volcano is an opening in the Earth's crust that allows molten rock, gases, and debris to escape to the surface.



Alaska, Hawaii, California, and Oregon have the most active volcanoes, but other states and territories have active volcanoes, too.



Volcanic ash can travel 100s of miles and cause severe health problems.



Can contaminate water supplies, damage machinery, and reduce visibility.







Can create smog and harmful gases that threaten lowlying areas, make it hard to breathe, and irritate the skin, eyes, nose, and throat.

#### IF YOU ARE UNDER A VOLCANO WARNING

Listen for emergency information and alerts.





Avoid areas downstream of the eruption.

Follow evacuation or shelter orders. If advised, evacuate early.





Protect yourself from falling ash.



Do not drive in heavy ash fall.







### WHEN A VOLCANO THREATENS



Know your area's risk from volcanic eruption.

Ask local emergency management for evacuation and shelter plans and for potential protections from ash.

Learn about community warning systems. The Volcano Notification Service (VNS) is a free service that sends notifications about volcanic activity. Sign up for alerts at https://volcanoes.usgs.gov/vns2/.

**Get needed supplies** in case you have to evacuate immediately or if services are cut off. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Do not forget the needs of pets.

Consult your doctor if you have existing respiratory difficulties.

Practice a communication and evacuation plan with everyone in your family.

**Have a shelter-in-place plan** if your biggest risk is from ash.

Keep important documents in a safe place. Create password-protected digital copies.

Find out what your homeowner's insurance policy will cover when a volcano erupts.



**Listen to alerts.** The VNS provides up-to-date information about eruptions.

Follow evacuation orders from local authorities. Evacuate early.

Avoid areas downwind and river valleys downstream of the volcano. Rubble and ash will be carried by wind and gravity.

Take temporary shelter from volcanic ash where you are if you have enough supplies. Cover ventilation openings and seal doors and windows.

If outside, protect yourself from falling ash that can irritate skin and injure breathing passages, eyes, and open wounds.

Avoid driving in heavy ash fall. If you must drive, use headlights and drive slowly.



**Listen to authorities** to find out whether it is safe to return.

Send text messages or use social media to reach out to family and friends. Phone systems are often busy after a disaster. Only make emergency calls.

Avoid driving in heavy ash. Driving will stir up volcanic ash that can clog engines and stall vehicles.

If you have any breathing problems, avoid contact with ash. Stay indoors until authorities say it is safe to go outside.

Do not get on your roof to remove ash unless you have guidance or training. If you have to remove ash, be very careful as ash makes surfaces slippery. Be careful not to add additional weight onto an overloaded roof.

#### Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to **Ready.gov** and search for **volcano**. Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a **volcano**. Find Emergency Safety Tips under Prepare. For additional resources, go to the USGS Volcano Hazards Program page at <a href="https://volcanoes.usgs.gov">https://volcanoes.usgs.gov</a>.









# BE PREPARED FOR A WILDFIRE

Wildfires can ruin homes and cause injuries or death to people and animals.

A wildfire is an unplanned fire that burns in a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or prairie.



Often caused by humans or lightning.



Can cause flooding or create problems with transportation, gas, power, and communications.



Can damage your property. Set up defense zones to protect your home.



Can happen anywhere, anytime. Risk increases with little rain and high winds.

## IF YOU ARE UNDER A WILDFIRE WARNING, GET TO SAFETY RIGHT AWAY

Leave if told to do so.





Listen for emergency information and alerts.

If trapped, call 911.





Use an N95 mask to keep particles out of the air you breathe.







### WHEN A WILDFIRE THREATENS



Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

Know your community's evacuation routes and find several ways to leave the area. Drive the evacuation routes and find shelter locations. Have a plan for pets and livestock.

Gather emergency supplies, including N95 respirator masks that filter out particles in the air you breathe. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Don't forget the needs of pets.

**Keep important documents** in a fireproof safe. Create password-protected digital copies.

Use fire-resistant materials to build, renovate, or make repairs.

Find an outdoor water source with a hose that can reach any area of your property.

Create a fire-resistant zone that is free of leaves, debris, or flammable materials for at least 30 feet from your home.

**Review insurance coverage** to make sure it is enough to replace your property.



**Evacuate.** Leave immediately if authorities tell you to do so.

If trapped, call 911 and give your location, but be aware that emergency response could be delayed or impossible. Turn on lights to help people find you.

Listen to EAS, NOAA Weather Radio, or local alerting systems for current emergency information and instructions.

Use an N95 mask to keep particles out of the air you breathe.



**Listen to authorities** to find out if it is safe to return and whether water is safe to drink.

Avoid hot ash, charred trees, smoldering debris, and live embers. The ground may contain heat pockets that can burn you or spark another fire. Consider the danger to pets and livestock walking the ground.

Send text messages or use social media to reach out to family and friends. Phone systems are often busy following a disaster. Make calls only in emergencies.

**Document property damage** with photographs. Conduct an inventory and contact your

### Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to **Ready.gov** and search for **wildfire**. Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a **wildfire**.









# BE PREPARED FOR A WINTER STORM

Winter storms create a higher risk of car accidents, hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, and heart attacks from overexertion.

Winter storms and blizzards can bring extreme cold, freezing rain, snow, ice, and high winds.







Can knock out heat, power, and communication services.

# IF YOU ARE UNDER A WINTER STORM WARNING, GET TO SAFETY RIGHT AWAY

Stay off roads.





Use generators outside only.

Stay indoors and dress warmly.





Listen for emergency information and alerts.

Prepare for power outages.





Look for signs of hypothermia and frostbite.



Check on neighbors.







#### WHEN A WINTER STORM THREATENS



Know your area's risk for winter storms. Extreme winter weather can leave communities without utilities or other services for long periods of time.

Prepare your home to keep out the cold with insulation, caulking, and weather stripping. Learn how to keep pipes from freezing. Install and test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors with battery backups.

Pay attention to weather reports and warnings of freezing weather and winter storms. Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

Gather supplies in case you need to stay home for several days without power. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Do not forget the needs of pets. Have extra batteries for radios and flashlights.

Create an emergency supply kit for your car. Include jumper cables, sand, a flashlight, warm clothes, blankets, bottled water, and non-perishable snacks. Keep the gas tank full.

Learn the signs of and basic treatments for frostbite and hypothermia. For more information, visit: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/staysafe/index.html">www.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/staysafe/index.html</a>.



Stay off roads if at all possible. If trapped in your car, stay inside.

Limit your time outside. If you need to go outside, wear layers of warm clothing. Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia.

Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Only use generators and grills outdoors and away from windows. Never heat your home with a gas stovetop or oven.

Reduce the risk of a heart attack. Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow.

Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia and begin treatment right away.

Check on neighbors.
Older adults and young children are more at risk in extreme cold.



**Frostbite** causes loss of feeling and color around the face, fingers, and toes.

- Signs: Numbness, white orgrayish-yellow skin, and firm or waxy skin.
- Actions: Go to a warm room.
   Soak in warm water. Use bodyheat to warm. Do not massageor use a heating pad.

**Hypothermia** is an unusually low body temperature. A temperature below 95 degrees is an emergency.

- Signs: Shivering, exhaustion, confusion, fumbling hands, memory loss, slurred speech, anddrowsiness.
- Actions: Go to a warm room.
   Warm the center of the body
   first—chest, neck, head, and
   groin. Keep dry and wrapped
   upin warm blankets, including
   the head and neck.

### Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to **Ready.gov** and search for **winter storm**. Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a **winter storm**.





