



Personal emergency preparedness is comprised of anticipation, awareness, and planning. It is made up of monitoring of a possible disaster situation via television, electronic information, District communication, and State communication.

**[If you have not signed up for IRIS, the Districts emergency notification system please do so now.](#)**

**Below is a list of basic items necessary to be prepared for and survive a freeze:**

- Know how to locate your water shut off valve outside your home.
- Place a marker near your shut off valve so you can find it later, if under snow.
- Purchase bottled water for drinking.
- Fill up your bathtubs with tap water for flushing toilets and hand washing dishes.
- Gather pitchers or buckets to help carry water for flushing and/or hand washing dishes.
- Purchase non-perishable food and a manual can opener to open cans.
- Purchase firewood for real wood fireplaces.
- Wrap outdoor pipes; remove garden hoses from faucets.
- Turn off irrigation systems.
- Turn off auto pool filling systems.
- Purchase a battery or crank operated radio.
- Whistle.
- Purchase flashlights and battery-operated lighting.
- Purchase batteries for flashlights and radios.
- Charge your cell phones, battery packs for cell phones and purchase a car charger for cell phones.
- Purchase a fire extinguisher.
- Gas up all vehicles (gas shortages often occur after a disaster).
- Consider a generator, fuel, plenty of outdoor power cords, surge protector and learn how to use the generator well before a disaster.
- Purchase electric space heaters.
- Warm clothing.
- Blankets.
- Toiletries.
- First aid kit.
- Keep emergency cash on hand.

For additional tips, <https://www.ready.gov/winter-weather> is another great resource for winter preparations.