Winter Storm & Blizzard Checklist

STATE OF EMERGENCY
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Organised by when you do it, not by category. Each column adds to the one on its left.

THE WEEK BEFORE

while the forecast is still quiet

- [ ] Pick the room you will heat
  interior, lowest floor, fewest windows
- [ ] CO alarm tested
  battery backup, fresh batteries
- [ ] Chimney swept, if you have one
- [ ] Read the heater manual
  the ventilation it asks for
- [ ] Find the water main shutoff
- [ ] Blankets set aside for windows
- [ ] Agree who checks on whom
- [ ] Boot kit in the car

THE WARNING

adds to the first column

- [ ] Fill the tank
- [ ] Fill the bathtub
- [ ] Move stored water indoors
  bottles split when they freeze
- [ ] Charge everything
- [ ] Food that needs no cooking
  and a manual can opener
- [ ] Light in every occupied room
- [ ] Radio out and tested
  no mains, no signal needed
- [ ] Open the cabinets on outside walls
  the ones under a sink
- [ ] Trickle at the furthest tap

THE OUTAGE

when the heat goes off

- [ ] Close the doors to the rest of the house
- [ ] Blankets over windows and doorways
- [ ] Fridge and freezer stay shut
- [ ] Thin layers, a hat indoors, dry socks
- [ ] Sleeping bags, not the thermostat
- [ ] Nothing burning while anyone sleeps
- [ ] Make the check-in calls

CARBON MONOXIDE - NO EXCEPTIONS

Generator	Outside only, twenty feet clear, exhaust pointed away
Never indoors	Not a garage, not a basement, not a covered porch
Never to heat a room	Barbecue, camping burner, kitchen range, patio heater
Never overnight	No unvented heater or open flame while the house sleeps

It is odourless and colourless. A working alarm is the only warning you get. If it sounds, go outside and call from there.

Our backup heat source: _____ **Water main shutoff:** _____

Who we check on: _____ **Who checks on us:** _____

A blizzard is wind and visibility, not depth. Under a Blizzard Warning, do not travel.

Snow banked in a cooler is not ice: it holds no reliable temperature. Keep both appliance doors shut instead.

General information, not medical advice. Snow and ice thresholds are set by each local National Weather Service office.
When a warning is active, follow local authorities and road closures before any general guidance.
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