



# Winter Storm

## Winter storm terms

**Winter Storm Advisory:** In the next 2 to 5 days wintry weather is expected to cause significant inconveniences and may become hazardous.

**Winter Storm Watch:** A winter storm is possible within the next 36 to 48 hours. Review your response plans and monitor weather reports.

**Winter Storm Warning:** Severe, potentially life-threatening winter conditions are occurring or will begin within 24 hours. Take precautions immediately.

**Blizzard:** Sustained winds or frequent gusts of 35 miles per hour or higher with heavy falling or blowing snow (reducing visibility to less than a quarter mile) are expected to prevail for a period of three hours or longer.

## Check your emergency supplies



water and food



flashlight and extra batteries



first aid kit



cell phone charger



copies of important documents



extra cash



rock salt to melt ice on walkways



Tools like a snow shovel and windshield scraper



Extra clothing and blankets

## Review your plan



If you and your roommates, workmates, or family may not be together when the storm strikes, check to be sure that you share plans, including a way to contact one another and to get back together.



Check on emergency plans at places where you or dependents spend time: work, daycare, and school. If no plan exists, consider volunteering to help create one.

HELP



Know ahead of time what you should do to help disabled or elderly friends, neighbors, or coworkers.

## Monitor weather conditions



Refer to the Virginia Tech Status Page often for university operational updates.



Check the National Weather Service for weather watches, warnings, and advisories for Virginia.



Check current local weather conditions and forecasts.

## If you must go outside

Dress for the weather. Wear several layers of loose fitting, lightweight, warm clothing rather than one heavy layer. Avoid overexertion. For example, shoveling snow can bring on a heart attack, a major cause of death in the winter. If you must shovel, stretch before going outside. Watch for signs of frostbite.