

# Cold Weather Safety Tips



## Here are some tips to protect yourself, your loved ones and your home when temperatures drop:

- **Remember the three feet rule.** If you are using a space heater, place it on a level hard surface and keep anything flammable at least three feet away (such as paper, clothing, bedding, and rugs.)
- **Supervision required.** Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- **Prevent catching yourself or items on fire!** When using a fireplace, make sure to use a glass or metal fire screen large enough to catch sparks and rolling logs. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance from your home.
- **Kitchen appliances are for cooking only.** Never use a stove or oven to heat your home.
- **Use generators outside.** Never operate a generator inside the home, including in the basement or garage. Don't hook up a generator to the home's wiring. The safest thing to do is to connect the equipment you want to power directly to the outlets on the generator.
- **Layer up!** Wear layers of lightweight clothing to stay warm. Gloves and a hat will help prevent losing your body heat.
- **Don't forget about your furry family.** Bring pets indoors. If they can't come inside, make sure they have enough shelter to keep them warm.



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\* Information provided by [nfpa.org](http://nfpa.org) and [redcross.org](http://redcross.org)