Winter Storms

CERT Basic Training

Hazards
Winter Storms

- **Range**
  - Moderate snow over a few hours
  - Blizzard conditions with blinding wind-driven snow that lasts for several days

- **Many winter storms are accompanied by:**
  - Low temperatures
  - Heavy or blowing snow, severely reducing visibility
Winter Storm Risks

- Automobile or other transportation accidents
- Exhaustion and heart attacks
- Hypothermia and frostbite
- House fires
- Asphyxiation
Elements of Winter Storms

- Heavy snow
- Ice – Perhaps the greatest danger of all!
- Winter flooding
- Cold
Types of Snow

- Blizzards
- Blowing snow
- Snow squalls
- Snow showers
- Sleet
- Freezing rain
- Ice storm
Winter Flooding

- Coastal floods
- Ice jams
- Snowmelt
Cold

- Windchill
- Frostbite
- Hypothermia
Winter Storm Preparedness

- Understand the risk
- Prepare your home
- Service snow removal equipment
- Keep vehicle’s gas tank full
- Pay attention to warnings
During a Winter Storm

- Stay indoors and dress warmly
- Eat and drink regularly
- Conserve fuel
- If outside, protect yourself from hazards
Winter Travel

● Avoid it, if possible!
● If you MUST travel in winter weather:
  ▪ Winterize your vehicle
  ▪ Keep charged cell phone or two-way radio with you at all times
  ▪ Carry disaster supply kit in your vehicle
  ▪ If stranded, stay inside your vehicle