



---

## **Ways to Prepare Your Vehicle Before Winter Storms & Extreme Cold**

- Minimize travel. If travel is necessary, keep a disaster supplies kit in your vehicle.
- Winterize your vehicle. Check or have a mechanic check the following items on your car.
  - Antifreeze levels - ensure they are sufficient to avoid freezing.
  - Battery and ignition system - should be in top condition and battery terminals should be clean.
  - Brakes - check for wear and fluid levels.
  - Exhaust system - check for leaks and crimped pipes and repair or replace as necessary. Carbon monoxide is deadly and usually gives no warning.
  - Fuel and air filters - replace and keep water out of the system by using additives and maintaining a full tank of gas. A full tank will keep the fuel line from freezing.
  - Heater and defroster - ensure they work properly.
  - Lights and flashing hazard lights - check for serviceability.
  - Oil - check for level and weight. Heavier oils congeal more at low temperatures and do not lubricate as well.
  - Thermostat - ensure it works properly.
  - Windshield wiper equipment - repair any problems and maintain proper washer fluid level.