

# Winter Safety Tips

## Travelling on the Road

- Listen for radio or television reports of travel advisories issued by the National Weather Service.
- Do not travel in low visibility conditions.
- Avoid traveling on ice-covered roads, overpasses, and bridges if at all possible.
- If you must travel by car, have tire chains available and take a mobile phone with you.
- If you must travel, let someone know your destination and when you expect to arrive. Ask them to notify authorities if you are late.
- Keep emergency gear in your car, including a cell phone, flashlight, flares, jumper cables, sand/kitty litter, ice scraper, small shovel, blankets and warming devices.
- Check and restock the winter emergency supplies in your car before you leave.
- Never pour water on your windshield to remove ice or snow; as shattering may occur.
- Don't rely on a car to provide sufficient heat; the car may break down.
- Always carry additional warm clothing appropriate for the winter conditions.
- If you're stopped or stalled, light two flares, place one at each end of your car and stay in your car with the window slightly cracked until help comes.

## Outdoor Safety

- Wear several layers of loose-fitting clothing. Trapped, insulated air warmed by body heat is the best protection from the cold.
- Wear a hat and gloves/mittens and make sure shoes or boots have nonskid soles.
- If you have to do heavy outdoor chores, dress warmly and work slowly.
- Avoid walking on ice or getting wet.
- Notify friends and family where you will be before you go hiking, camping, or skiing.

## Home Heating & Safety

- Install carbon monoxide alarms in your home.
- Know symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning: headache, fatigue, nausea, dizziness and shortness of breath.
- Never use or store flammable or combustible liquids near or in rooms with heaters.
- Cooking appliances should not be used to heat a home.
- Have your heating system tuned up each year. Have wood stoves and fireplace chimneys and flues inspected and cleaned.
- Inspect space heaters for cracked or damaged, broken plugs or loose connections; replace before using.
- Keep a 3-foot safe area around all heating sources.
- Have working smoke alarms installed in each sleeping area of your home and on each level. Test the alarms monthly to ensure they're working. Replace alarms after 10 years.
- Have an escape plan with two ways out of each room and a meeting place outside. Practice your plan regularly.

*Take time to be safe this winter!*

**Lake Stevens Fire**

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