



## Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

### Public Information From:

Delaware County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management  
10 Court St, Delaware, Ohio 43015

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CONTACT:** Sandy Mackey, Delaware County Emergency Management Agency

**OFFICE:** 740.833.2183   **MOBILE:** 740.362.6283

### *Delaware County - Winter Safety Awareness Week: November 13-19*

Winter Safety Awareness Week is the perfect time to start winterizing your home and vehicles before winter weather arrives. Delaware County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) offers the following checklist to help prepare for winter:

- **Prepare your home for winter:**

- Cut and remove low-hanging and dead tree branches.
- Have your gutters cleaned. Clogged gutters can aggravate ice dam problems.
- Have fireplaces, furnaces and auxiliary heaters checked and serviced before using.
- Keep your pantry stocked with 72 hours' worth of supplies, such as food, water, specialty items such as diapers and medication.
- Check and change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Have extra batteries for flashlights and a battery operated or hand-cranked radio.
- Invest in a NOAA Public Alert/Weather Radio. A portable weather radio can also be taken with you to another location.

- **Alternate heat/power sources:**

- Before using generator power and kerosene heaters, take time to review the manufacturer's directions. Carbon monoxide poisoning and fire are very real dangers with the use of heaters and generators. Never leave candles burning unattended at any time.



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- **Prepare your vehicle for winter:**

- Stock your vehicle with a small shovel, a cell phone charger and a blanket.
- Check radiator coolant, hoses and belts.
- Check tire tread and wear.
- Make sure brakes are in proper working order.
- Keep spare window washer fluid in the trunk.
- Make sure the washer blades are in good working condition.

- **Don't forget to plan for pets and livestock:**

- Before winter weather arrives, prepare a warm, dry shelter where animals can go to be safe from the elements.
- Arrange for animals to have access to non-frozen drinking water.
- Have livestock/pet food and medication on hand.

The Delaware County Emergency Management Agency is on the web: [www.delcoema.org](http://www.delcoema.org) @delcoema

More information on winter weather can be found on the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather

Awareness website: <http://www.weathersafety.ohio.gov/>

Questions may be directed to the Delaware County Emergency Management Agency at (740) 833-2180.



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