



Social Media: Winter Safety

#WinterSafety #WinterPrep

Please help the NWS spread these important safety messages on social media! Everyone is welcome to use the text and images provided below to help the NWS build a Weather-Ready Nation.

[Winter Safety Launch](#)

[Winter Safety Post](#)

[Winter Storm Advisory, Watch, and Warning](#)

[Winter Driving](#)

[Winter and Pets](#)

[Winter Injuries and Fatalities](#)

[Education](#)

[Wind](#)

[Fog](#)

[Blizzards](#)

[Nor'easter](#)

[Temperature](#)

[Polar Vortex](#)

[Hypothermia](#)

[Frostbite](#)

[Avalanche](#)

[General Weather Preparedness](#)

[OSHA](#)

Winter Safety Launch

Facebook:

Frigid temperatures, heavy snow, icy roads, strong winds, flooding and more can make winter particularly dangerous. Make sure you and your loved ones are prepared for hazardous weather this winter by checking out the National Weather Service's Winter Safety website!

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/winter_safety.html

Twitter:

Get ready for winter weather hazards by visiting our Winter Safety website!

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/winter_safety.html



Winter Safety Post

Facebook:

Check out the National Weather Service Winter Safety website to find out how to stay safe before, during and after a winter storm! www.weather.gov/winter

Twitter:

Check out the National Weather Service Winter Safety website! www.weather.gov/winter

(Note: If you would like to add the date for the earliest snowfall for your area, visit <http://xmacis.rccacis.org/>)

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

HOME FORECAST PAST WEATHER WEATHER SAFETY INFORMATION CENTER NEWS SEARCH ABOUT

Winter Safety Winter Warning vs. Watch Before a Winter Storm During a Winter Storm After a Winter Storm

Winter Resources

- Winter Storm Safety
- Snow
- Wind Chill
- Ice and Frost
- Winter Storm Hazards
- NWS Winter Products
- Forecasts and Observations
- Education and Outreach Materials
- Links and Partner Agencies

Winter storms, snow, windchill, frost, ice and extreme cold are a coast-to-coast threat to the United States and its territories. Even Hawaii gets snow on its Big Island and frost is a major threat to crops in Southern states. Major cities as far south as Atlanta and Dallas have been paralyzed by snow and ice. Extreme cold is a relative term. In Miami it is defined very differently than in Fairbanks. This page is designed to teach you how to stay safe in a winter storm or in abnormally cold weather for your area. If you know what to do before, during, and after a winter event, you can increase your chances of survival. On this site, you will find information on winter alerts, science and hazards, as well as snow coverage maps, and information describing the different types of winter storms as well as how to deal with extreme cold. You'll also find a broad array of educational materials.

Winter Storm Advisory, Watch, and Warning

Facebook:

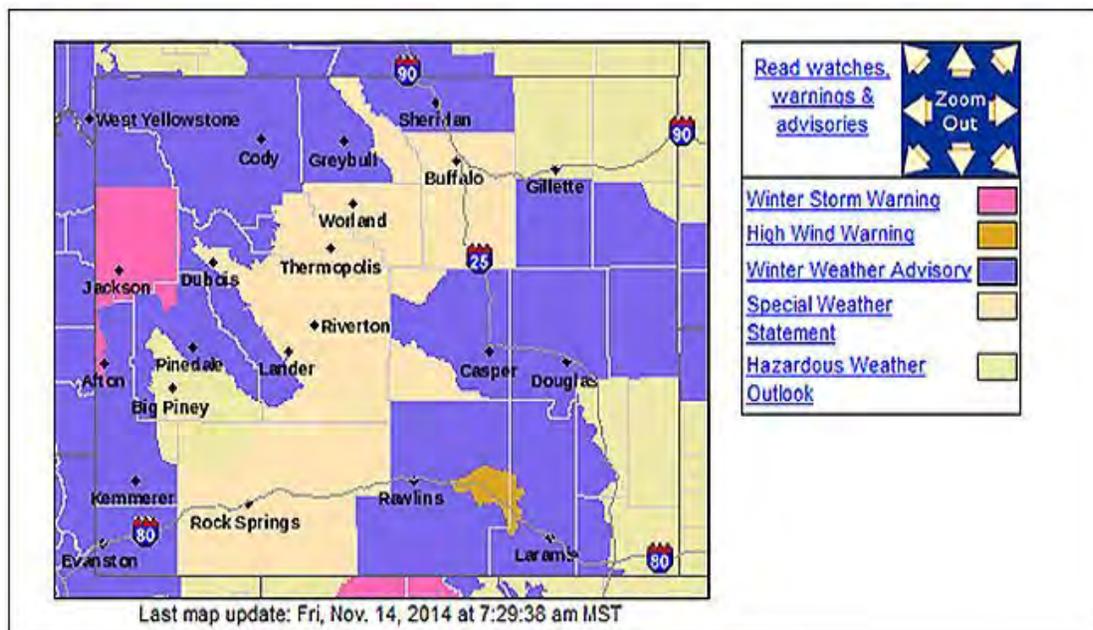
Do you know the difference between a Winter Storm Watch, Winter Storm Warning and a Winter Weather Advisory? When a warning is issued: TAKE ACTION! When a watch is issued: Get Prepared! When an advisory is issued: Take Precautions! Find out more at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter/ww.shtml>

Twitter:

What's the difference between a Winter Storm Watch and a Winter Storm Warning?

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter/ww.shtml>



Winter Driving

Facebook:

On average, weather-related vehicle crashes kill 6,250 people and injure more than 480,000 each year. Snow or ice can create particularly dangerous driving conditions. Remember to slow down, leave plenty of space between you and the vehicle in front of you, and give yourself extra time to reach your destination. Also, make sure that your mobile phone is fully charged—it could become your lifeline if disaster should strike. www.weather.gov/winter

Twitter:

Driving in ice or snow: slow down, leave space between cars and allow extra driving time. www.weather.gov/winter

On average weather-related crashes kill 6,250 people and injure more than 480,000 each year. www.weather.gov/winter



Facebook:

Stay off the roads during hazardous wintry weather whenever possible! If you absolutely have to venture out, be sure you have emergency supplies in your vehicle and that your mobile phone is fully charged—it could become your lifeline if disaster should strike. Photo from New York State Police of cars trapped on the road. <http://ready.gov/car>

Twitter

If you have to drive in ice/snow, have emergency supplies in your car! <http://www.ready.gov/car>



Facebook:

About 70% of injuries related to ice and snow occur in automobiles and about 25% are people caught unprepared in a storm. The majority are males over 40 years old.

<http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/education/svrwx101/winter/>

Twitter:

About 70% of injuries related to ice and snow occur in automobiles.

<http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/education/svrwx101/winter/>



Winter and Pets

Facebook:

When preparing for winter, don't forget your pets! If it's too cold for you to be outside, it's also too cold for your pets. Make sure to provide a warm, dry place for any animals that typically stay outdoors. <http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/winterstorm/protentpetsduringsnowstorms>

Twitter:

Don't forget your pets! Keep them inside during cold weather.

<http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/winterstorm/protentpetsduringsnowstorms>



Winter Injuries and Fatalities

Facebook:

Most deaths from winter storms are not directly related to the storm itself. Traffic accidents on icy roads, heart attacks while shoveling snow and hypothermia from prolonged exposure to cold are the main killers. Take it slow and bundle up if you have to be out! If at all possible, stay inside and avoid the elements. <http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/education/svrwx101/winter/>

Twitter:

Most winter weather deaths are from traffic accidents, heart attacks (shoveling) & hypothermia <http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/education/svrwx101/winter/>



Education

Facebook:

Learn about winter weather safety with NWS mascot Owlie Skywarn! Play the winter weather portion of the Young Meteorologist Program game!

<http://www.youngmeteorologist.org/game/index.html>

Twitter:

Learn about winter weather safety with NWS mascot @NWSOwlieSkywarn!

<http://www.youngmeteorologist.org/game/index.html>



Facebook:

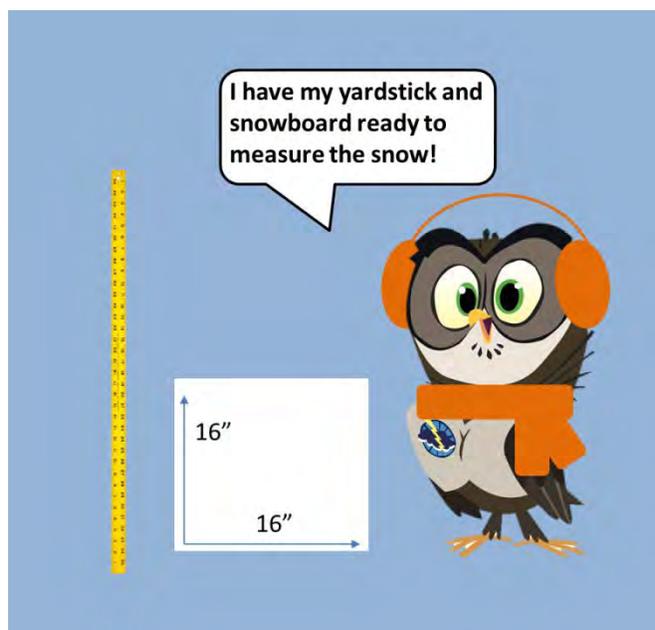
Want to learn to measure snow depth? My snow board has been placed on a spot far away from trees and buildings so that none of the falling snow is blocked from reaching the board. I have a yardstick handy so that I can take an accurate measurement! Visit CoCoRaHS to learn more about how to accurately measure and report snowfall amounts.

<http://www.cocorahs.org/Content.aspx?page=measuresnow>

Twitter:

Visit CoCoRaHS to learn more about how to accurately measure and report snowfall amounts.

<http://www.cocorahs.org/Content.aspx?page=measuresnow>



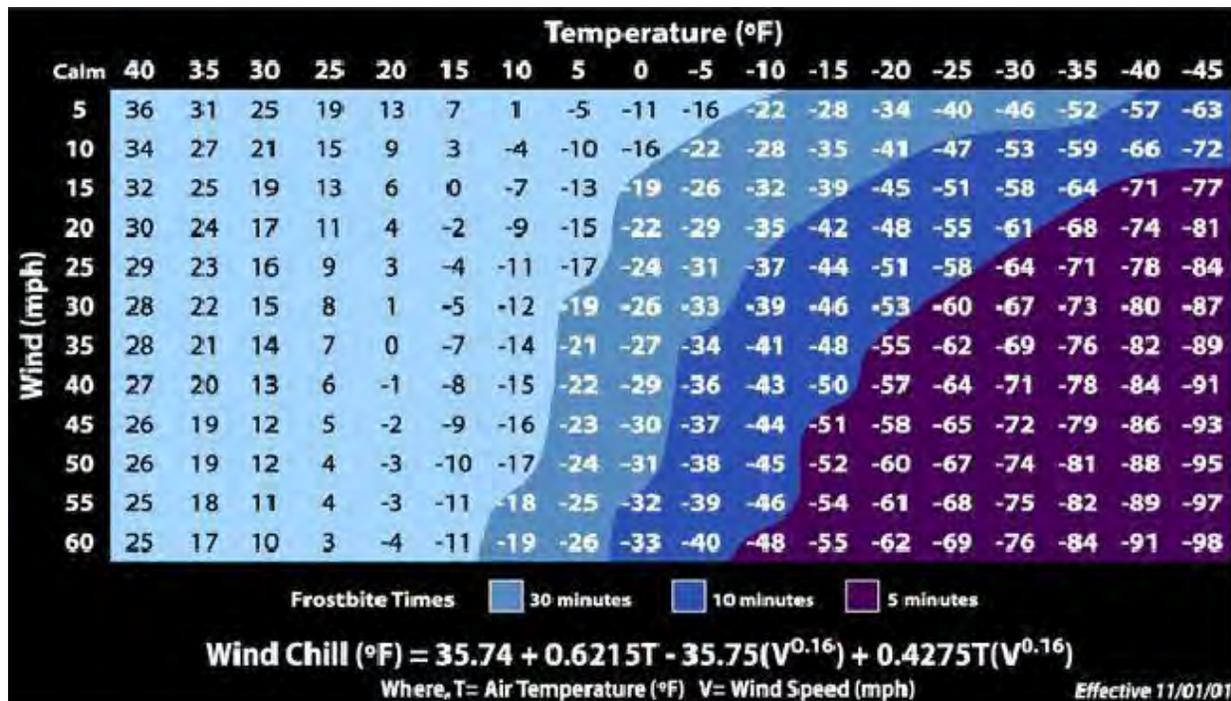
Wind

Facebook:

When it's chilly outside, the wind can make it feel even colder. But how much colder does the wind really make the air feel? Find out using the National Weather Service wind chill calculator: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter/windchill.shtml>

Twitter:

When it is windy, how cold does it feel? Use this wind chill calculator to find out: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter/windchill.shtml>



Fog

Facebook:

Driving in fog is dangerous due to reduced visibility. A Dense Fog Advisory means that widespread visibility reductions of a quarter of a mile or less are expected or occurring. Slow down and leave extra space between you and the car ahead of you!

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/fog/driving.shtml>

Twitter:

Driving in fog is dangerous due to reduced visibility. Slow down!

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/fog/driving.shtml>



Blizzards

Facebook:

Blizzards are dangerous winter storms that combine blowing snow and wind, resulting in very low visibilities. While heavy snowfalls and severe cold often accompany blizzards, they are not required for a winter storm to be called a blizzard. Sometimes strong winds pick up snow that has already fallen, creating what's known as a ground blizzard. Officially, a blizzard is a storm that contains large amounts of snow OR blowing snow, with winds in excess of 35 mph and visibilities of less than 1/4 mile for an extended period of time (at least three hours). When these conditions are expected, the National Weather Service will issue a Blizzard Warning.

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/fgz/science/blizzard.php?wfo=fgz>

Twitter:

What makes a blizzard dangerous? <http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/fgz/science/blizzard.php?wfo=fgz>



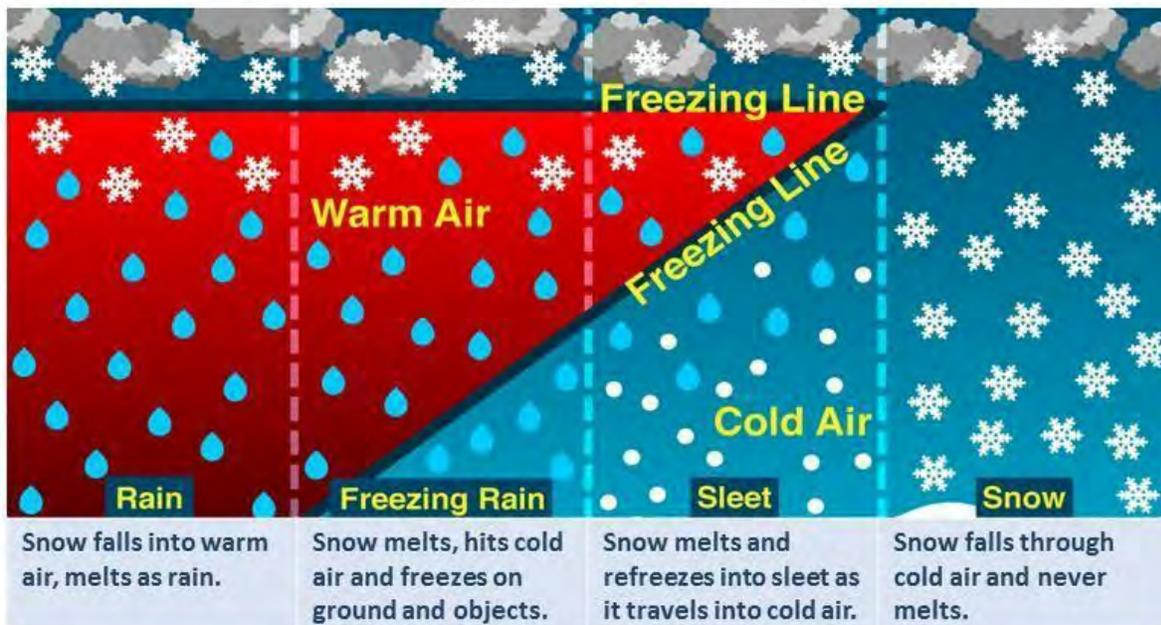
Facebook:

Will there be rain, ice or snow? This graphic explains how having different layers of warm and cold air between the clouds and the ground determines the type of precipitation that hits the ground. <http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/education/svrwx101/winter/types/>

Twitter:

Will there be rain, ice or snow? Find out how wintry precipitation forms! <http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/education/svrwx101/winter/types/>

How The Different Types Of Winter Precipitation Form



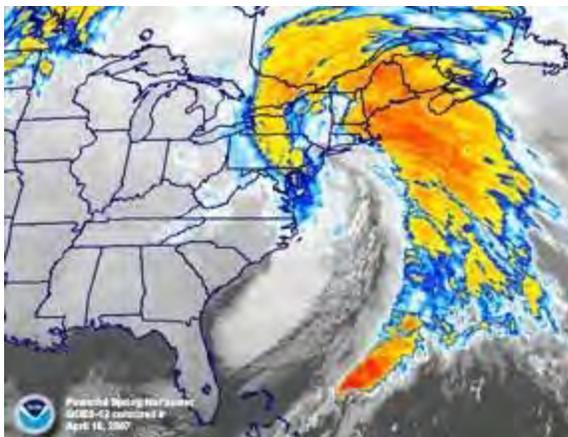
Nor'easter

Facebook:

A nor'easter can strike at any time of year, but these coastal storms tend to be strongest during the winter months. Named for the northeasterly winds that blow over coastal areas, these storms can bring heavy precipitation in the form of snow or rain, along with strong winds and may cause beach erosion. http://www.noaa.gov/features/03_protecting/noreasters.html

Twitter:

Nor'easters are strongest during the winter months.
http://www.noaa.gov/features/03_protecting/noreasters.html



Temperature

Facebook:

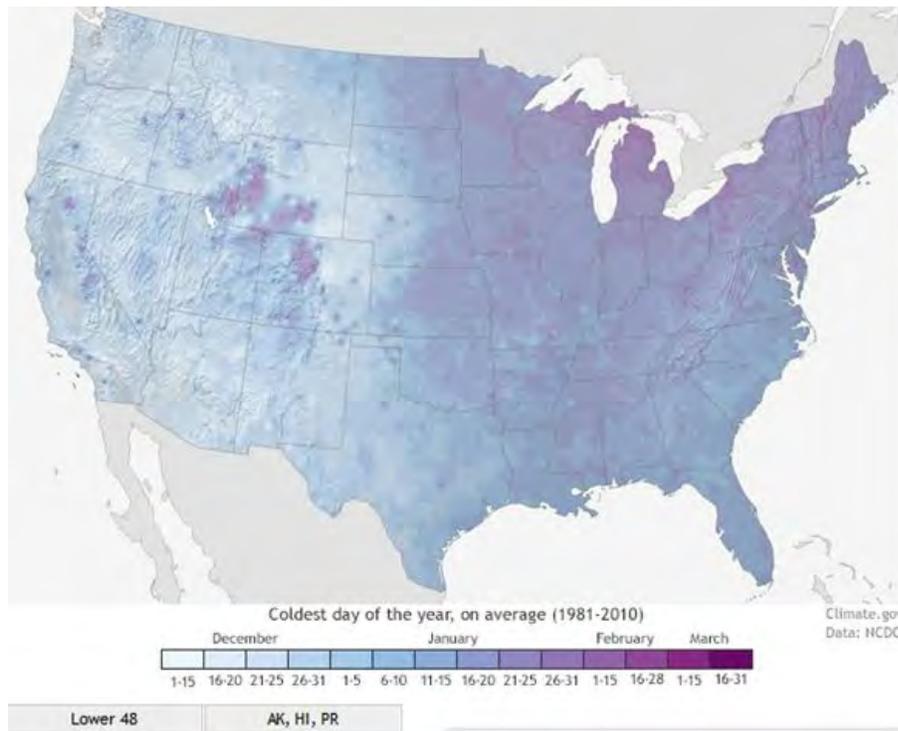
What day of the year is usually the coldest of the season where you live? Find out:

<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/featured-images/whats-coldest-day-year>

Twitter:

What day of the year is usually the coldest of the season where you live?

<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/featured-images/whats-coldest-day-year>



Polar Vortex

Facebook:

Don't fear the Polar Vortex. Discover the facts behind the hype:

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter/polar_vortex.shtml

Twitter:

Don't fear the Polar Vortex. Discover the facts behind the hype.

http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter/polar_vortex.shtml



Hypothermia

Facebook:

More than 1,300 people die each year from hypothermia. Visit www.weather.gov/winter for more information on how to prepare for the cold this winter.

Twitter:

Hypothermia kills >1,300 people each year. Learn how to prepare for the cold this winter: www.weather.gov/winter



Frostbite

Facebook

Frostbite can occur on exposed body parts during extreme cold. Uncovered faces, cheeks and extremities such as fingers and toes are most susceptible. When temperatures are around 0 degrees Fahrenheit and the wind is blowing at 15 miles per hour, frostbite can occur in approximately 30 minutes. The colder the temperatures or the stronger the wind, the faster frostbite will occur. Dress properly for the cold. If you feel pain or numbness, find warm shelter. If symptoms persist seek medical attention.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N6Fq4RkWe7s&feature=youtu.be>

Twitter

Frostbite can occur on exposed body parts during extreme cold. Learn how to stay safe!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N6Fq4RkWe7s&feature=youtu.be> #wintersafety



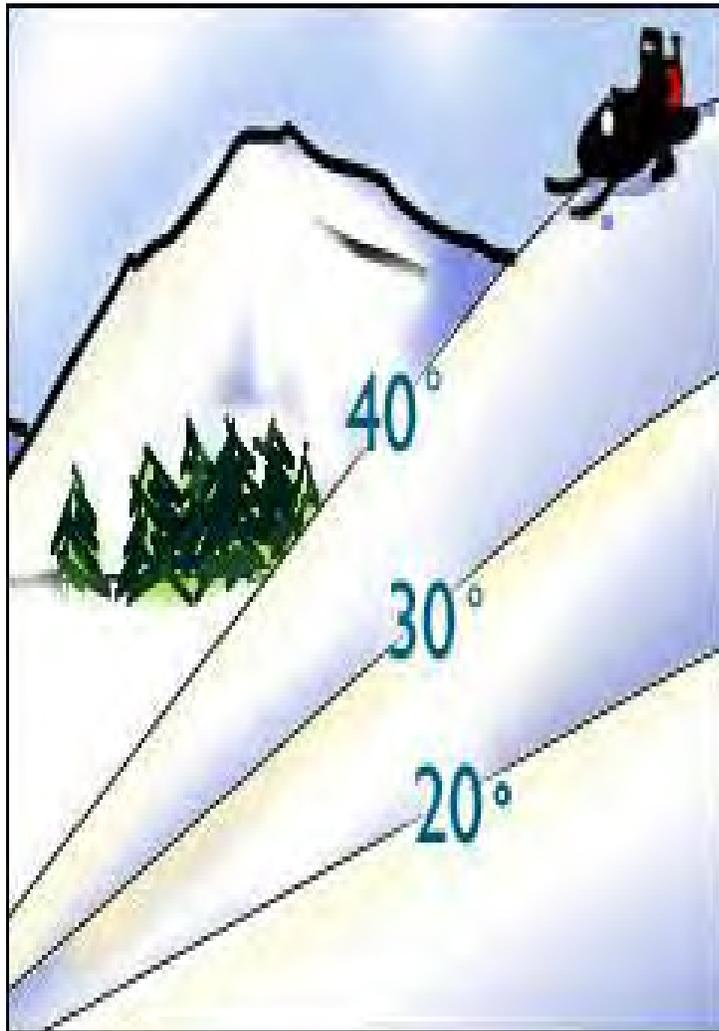
Avalanche

Facebook

Three conditions must be present to start an avalanche: slope, snowpack and a trigger. Avalanches generally occur on slopes steeper than 35 degrees. Recent avalanches, shooting cracks, and “whumpfung” are signs of unstable snow. Sometimes it doesn’t take much to tip the balance; people, new snow, and wind are common triggers. Learn more about the different types of avalanches and how you can stay safe. <http://www.fsavalanche.org/get-the-training>

Twitter

Three conditions must be present to start an avalanche: slope, snowpack and a trigger. <http://www.fsavalanche.org/get-the-training/> #wintersafety



General Weather Preparedness

Facebook:

Time to get prepared! Don't let bad weather sneak up on you! Get in the habit of checking weather.gov every morning before you go out. Make sure that you are ready for whatever the day may bring. www.weather.gov

Twitter:

Know Before You Go! Check your forecast before you leave the house! www.weather.gov

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

HOME FORECAST FIRST WEATHER WEATHER SAFETY INFORMATION CENTER NEWS SEARCH ABOUT

Forecast for "City, ST" at 00:00 UTC
USBR/ONS

Strong thunderstorms possible southwest Oklahoma and northwest Texas Tuesday
Strong thunderstorms could produce strong winds and large hail across southwest Oklahoma and northwest Texas on Tuesday. Strong thunderstorms are also possible from Arkansas into southern Georgia and northern Florida. Elsewhere, snow is likely on Tuesday from the Great Lakes to upstate New York.
[Send Mail](#)

ACTIVE ALERTS FORECAST MAPS RADAR RIVERS, LAKES, BARRAGE AIR QUALITY SATELLITE FEEL WEATHER

Customize Your Weather.gov
City, ST
Select Your City, ST or ZIP Code
[Get Weather](#)

Created: 12/14/06 at 12:00 AM

Click on the map above for detailed alerts of: [Warnings By State](#) [Public Alerts in SML/CAD v1.1 and ADOM Formats](#)

Facebook:

Your family may not be together when a winter storm strikes so it is important to plan in advance how you will get to a safe place; how you will contact one another; how you will get back together; and what you will do in different situations. Create a Family Communications Plan:

<http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>

Twitter:

Your family may not be together when a winter storm strikes. Make a plan:

<http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>



Family Communication Plan

Emergencies can happen at any time. Do you know how to get in touch with your family if you are not together?

Let them know you're OK!
Pick the same person for each family member to contact. It might be easier to reach someone who's out of town.

Text, don't talk!

Unless you are in immediate danger, send a text. Texts often have an easier time getting through during emergencies, and you don't want to tie up phone lines needed by emergency responders (like 911).



Know the Numbers!

Home: _____	Adult: _____
Parent: _____	Home: _____
Cell: _____	Cell: _____
Work: _____	Neighbor: _____
Parent: _____	Home: _____
Cell: _____	Cell: _____
Work: _____	Neighbor: _____
My cell: _____	Home: _____
Sibling: _____	Cell: _____
Cell: _____	Out of state friend/relative: _____
Sibling: _____	Home: _____
Cell: _____	Cell: _____

Memorize your home and parents' cell phone numbers!



Cut this out and keep it somewhere safe like your backpack, school notebook, or wallet. Or input these numbers into your cell phone if you have one.

OSHA

Winter is coming! #OSHA resources can help employers protect outdoor workers in cold weather: http://www.osha.gov/dts/weather/winter_weather/ #WinterPrep

It's cold out there! Implement these safety practices for employees working in the cold: http://www.osha.gov/dts/weather/winter_weather/beprepared.html #OSHA #WinterPrep

Employers can take precautions and learn how to treat symptoms of cold stress to keep workers safe: <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/emergencypreparedness/guides/cold.html> #OSHA #WinterPrep

Cold temps affect the entire country in winter. #OSHA resources can help prevent cold stress for workers: <http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/emergencypreparedness/guides/cold.html> #WinterPrep

