

Here's what you can do to help the Township during a winter storm:

- Please assist the Department of Public Works by **removing all vehicles from the road during snow removal operations**. While parking is prohibited only in designated areas, the Township would ask that you be courteous to your neighbors, our DPW professionals, and all our first responders. Help keep our roads as clean and accessible as possible.
- Please **shovel sidewalks** as soon as possible to ensure pedestrian safety. [Town Ordinance](#)
- Wait until the street has been plowed to the edge of pavement before shoveling the street end of your driveway.
- Have contractors keep the plowed snow on your property wherever possible.
- Clear the snow from around fire hydrants and catch basin inlets.
- Please limit your vehicular travel; emergency and essential trips only.
- Check on your neighbors, especially elderly neighbors who are unable to shovel.
- Children should be cautioned about the dangers of sledding on the street.

Before Winter Storms and Extreme Cold

To prepare for a winter storm you should do the following:

*Before winter approaches, add the following supplies to your [emergency kit](#):

-Rock salt or more environmentally safe products to melt ice on walkways. Visit the [Environmental Protection Agency](#) for a complete list of recommended products.

-Sand to improve traction.

-Snow shovels and other snow removal equipment.

-Sufficient heating fuel. You may become isolated in your home and regular fuel sources may be cut off. Store a good supply of dry seasoned wood for your fireplace or wood burning stove

-Adequate clothing and blankets to keep you warm.

*Make a [Family Communications Plan](#). Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to know how you will contact one another, how you will get back together and what you will do in case of an emergency.

*A NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts alerts and warnings directly from the NWS for all hazards. You may also sign up in advance to receive notifications from your local emergency services. (see Nixle information below)



Nixle: Morris Township Police will keep you up to date with relevant information by text and/or email with Nixle. Nixle includes emergency alerts (to ensure your safety), advisories (non-emergency, but need to know information), localized traffic information, and occasionally community news. Register at www.nixle.com to personalize your location and your preferences, making the free service fit your needs. Or, if you prefer easy registration, text your zip code to 888777 to receive local alerts through SMS!

-Download FEMA's Be Smart. Know Your Alerts and Warnings for a summary of notifications at: www.ready.gov/prepare. Free smart phone apps, such as those available from FEMA and the American Red Cross, provide information about finding shelters, providing first aid, and seeking assistance for recovery.

*Minimize travel. If travel is necessary, keep a disaster supplies kit in your vehicle.

*Bring pets/companion animals inside during winter weather. Move other animals or livestock to sheltered areas with non-frozen drinking water

During Winter Storms and Extreme Cold

- Stay indoors during the storm.

- Walk carefully on snowy, icy, walkways.

- Avoid overexertion when shoveling snow. Overexertion can bring on a heart attack—a major cause of death in the winter. Use caution, take breaks, push the snow instead of lifting it when possible, and lift lighter loads.

- Keep dry. Change wet clothing frequently to prevent a loss of body heat. Wet clothing loses all of its insulating value and transmits heat rapidly.

- Signs of Frostbite: Occurs when the skin and body tissue just beneath it freezes. Loss of feeling and white or pale appearance in extremities, such as fingers, toes, earlobes, face, and the tip of the nose. What to Do: Cover exposed skin, but do not rub the affected area in an attempt to warm it up. Seek medical help immediately.

- Signs of Hypothermia: Dangerously low body temperature. Uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness, and apparent exhaustion. What to Do: If symptoms of hypothermia are detected take the person's temperature. If it is below 95°, seek medical attention immediately. Get the victim to a warm location. Remove wet clothing. Warm the center of the body first by wrapping the person in blankets or putting on dry clothing. Give warm, nonalcoholic beverages if the victim is conscious. Seek medical help immediately.

- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends, if you detect symptoms of frostbite, seek medical care. Because frostbite and hypothermia both result from exposure, first determine whether the victim also shows signs of hypothermia. Hypothermia is a more serious medical condition and requires emergency medical assistance.

- Drive only if it is absolutely necessary. If you must drive: travel in the day; don't travel alone; keep others informed of your schedule; stay on main roads and avoid back road shortcuts.

- Let someone know your destination, your route, and when you expect to arrive. If your car gets stuck along the way, help can be sent along your predetermined route.
- If the pipes freeze, remove any insulation or layers of newspapers and wrap pipes in rags. Completely open all faucets and pour hot water over the pipes, starting where they were most exposed to the cold (or where the cold was most likely to penetrate).
- Maintain ventilation when using kerosene heaters to avoid build-up of toxic fumes. Refuel kerosene heaters outside and keep them at least three feet from flammable objects.
- Conserve fuel, if necessary, by keeping your residence cooler than normal. Temporarily close off heat to some rooms.
- If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, set to a temperature no lower than 55°F.

-  Remember if you have a power outage call 1-888-544-4877 to report.

