

# Take Precautions Now as Winter Storm Threatens the Area

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**CHICAGO** – With a forecast that includes the potential for heavy snow, ice and high winds late Monday into Tuesday, FEMA Region 5 encourages everyone to stay off the roads, remain indoors and follow the instructions of local and state officials to stay safe.

“During this potentially dangerous weather event, the best place to be is home,” said Kevin M. Sligh, acting regional administrator, FEMA Region 5. “If you must be on the road during the storm, take precautions to get to your destination safely. Make sure you have a full tank of gas and have essentials on hand before you leave—including a flashlight, warm clothes, blankets and food and water.”

Monitor local radio or TV stations for updated emergency information. Prepare for possible power outages as a result of the storm; be sure to fully charge all electronics before the storm impacts your area. When it is safe, check on your neighbors or friends while following the latest guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on maintaining social and physical distancing. Consider connecting with family and friends by telephone, email, text messages, video chat and social media.

Find valuable tips to help you prepare for severe winter weather at [www.ready.gov/winter-weather](http://www.ready.gov/winter-weather) or download the free FEMA app, available for your Android, Apple or Blackberry device. Visit the site or download the app today so you have the information you need to prepare for severe winter weather.

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