

NEWS RELEASE

City of Indianapolis
Department of Public Safety
Emergency Management Division



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ADVISORY

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WINTER STORM WARNING

The National Weather Service has issued a Winter Storm Warning for this evening through Saturday morning at 6:00 AM. The snow is expected to start after 4:00 AM Friday morning and continue throughout the day, ending late Friday evening or early Saturday morning. A Winter Storm Warning means significant amounts of snow, sleet or ice are possible. Roads could be snow covered and hazardous, so people should use their discretion and be careful when driving. The NWS expects accumulations between 4" and 8" of snow in the Indianapolis area.

The Department of Public works will have snow plows on the city streets beginning at 11:00 pm this evening and throughout the weekend. DPW asks everyone to remember the rules of the road; don't follow too closely or pass a snow plow, as they have limited visibility and it can be dangerous.

Winter weather catches people unprepared. Researchers say that 70% of the fatalities related to ice and snow occurs in automobiles, so be careful when you drive. The Indianapolis/Marion County Emergency Management Agency wants to remind everyone of a few simple things to do before, during, and after winter weather. Preparedness is the key to your safety!!

We are reminding people to:

- **Please use caution and be aware of hazardous driving conditions.** Leave early and don't follow the car in front of you too closely, the roads may be slick and icy in spots and it may be difficult to stop quickly.
- **Listen to the weather reports, plan accordingly**
- **Plan alternate routes to prevent traffic jams**
- **Exercise caution when driving;**
Drive as the road dictates, slow and steady is the name of the game.
- **Have an emergency supply kit in the vehicle;**
Mobile phone, charger, spare batteries, blanket/sleeping bags, extra food and water are essential.
- **Keep the gas tank as full as possible;**
If stranded, run the car periodically to preserve fuel, stay with the car, do not wander away.
- **Make sure someone knows your route and timetable**
- **Have a disaster kit ready;**
Major concerns for individuals at home are loss of heat, power, and telephone service. Individuals and families should have food and water, flashlights and batteries, first aid supplies and a battery operated radio in their disaster kit.

These tips and more are available on our website at www.indy.gov/ema or the National Weather Service

website at <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/winter>.

City road closure information can be obtained online at

<http://www.indy.gov/eGov/City/DPW/Road/Closings/Pages/home.aspx>

State road conditions can be obtained at <http://www.in.gov/indot/2351.htm>

or by calling 800-582-8440.