

Severe Winter Storm Information

Severe Winter Storms- Severe winter storms bring heavy snow, ice, strong winds, and freezing rain. Winter storms can prevent employees and customers from reaching the facility, leading to a temporary shutdown until roads are cleared. Heavy snow and ice can also cause structural damage and power outages.

Planning Considerations

The following are considerations for preparing for winter storms:

- Listen to NOAA Weather Radio and local radio and television stations for weather information:
 - **Winter Storm Watch-** severe winter weather is possible.
 - **Winter Storm Warning-** severe winter weather is expected.
 - **Blizzard Warning-** severe winter weather with sustained winds of at least 35mph is expected.
 - **Travelers Advisory-** severe winter conditions may make driving difficult or dangerous.

- Establish procedures for facility shutdown and early release of employees.

- Store food, water, blankets, battery-powered radios with extra batteries, and other emergency supplies for employees who become stranded at the facility.

- Provide a backup power source for critical operations.

- Arrange for snow and ice removal from parking lots, walkways, loading docks, etc.