

Are You Prepared For Winter Weather?

Winter storm URI taught us that no parts of the state are off-limits when it comes to winter weather and freeze damage. From the panhandle to the coast and all points in between, most every governmental entity has a story regarding the winter storm of 2021 and incurred losses to Members now top \$75,000,000. As we all know, preparing is a vital part to keeping your entity running smoothly. Winter weather can be a nightmare that involves freezing temperatures, icy roads, power outages, frozen pipes, and more. Early preparation and response are key. The information below can assist in preparing for winter weather.



Equipment Maintenance:

- Generator Testing Monthly
- HVAC Inspections Annually
- Vehicles Daily
- Sprinkler systems Quarterly
- Power Tools Prior to Each Use

Building Maintenance:

- Know Where the Water Shut-Off is Located and How to Turn the Water Off
- Preventing Frozen Pipes Insulation, Heaters
- Thawing Frozen Pipes Keep Faucet Open, Apply Heat
- Vacant Buildings

Emergency Supplies:

- Water
- Fuel (Diesel Fuel for generators)
- Flashlights
- PPE (Gloves, Coats, boots)
- Vehicle Kit (ice scrapper, blanket, ice melt/sand/kitty litter, phone charger,)

Emergency Contacts:

- Essential Employees Assign Responsibilities, Especially During Weekends
- Local Utility Companies
- Remediation Contractors
- State Emergency Management

Community Considerations:

- Warming Centers
- Communications (Social Media Posting, Automated Phone Messages, Local TV Stations)
- Information Regarding Emergency Assistance

Additional Resources

TMLIRP SynergyNDS Emergency Turnkey Recovery Program

TMLIRP STP Podcast 'The storm has passed. Now What? The Pool's Synergy NDS Turnkey Recovery Program' Episode #6

Using a Generator After a Storm: <u>Using a generator after a storm? Stay safe from carbon monoxide</u> (texas.gov)

Winter Weather Preparedness: <u>Winter Weather - Preparedness | Occupational Safety and Health</u> Administration (osha.gov)

Winter Weather: Winter Weather | Ready.gov

Power Outage Safety: Power Outage Safety | American Red Cross

Preventing and Thawing Frozen Pipes: Winter Storms: Preventing & Thawing Frozen Pipes (tamu.edu)

TMLIRP Online Learning Center: Dealing with Cold Stress