

2025 Prepare in a Year Campaign



Play it Safe – Winter Weather

The Tip for the month of February is to **Play it Safe and Prepare for Winter Weather**. Although we are currently experiencing a milder winter in 2025, these tips are good reminders to be winter weather ready, so we don't get caught out in the cold and unprepared.

Winter Weather Hazards:

Winter storms create a higher risk of car accidents, carbon monoxide poisoning, power outages and home fires. Winter storms can bring extreme cold, rain, snow, ice, high winds, flooding and can:

- Last a few hours or several days
- Knock out heat, power, and communication services
- Place older adults, young children, and individuals with compromised health at greater risk

Prepare for Winter Weather Hazards:

- Know your area's risk for winter storms (flooded roadways, icy roads, snow)
- Prepare your home to keep out the cold with insulation, caulking, and weather stripping
- Install and test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms: [Fire Safety Equipment | Red Cross](#)
 - To request a free smoke alarm installation from Red Cross, call (619) 354-9609 or visit: [SoCal Request Form: Smoke Alarm & Wildfire Safety](#)
- **Keep working on your 72-Hour Go-Bag** (see the Shopping Sweepstakes Challenge below)
- Keep the gas tank full or at least half-full and learn other car safety tips (available in multiple languages) at this link: <https://www.ready.gov/car>

Play it Safe:

- Check on neighbors – especially older adults and those with chronic health issues
- Use battery operated candles or camping lanterns during power outages (not wick burning candles)
- **Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning by:**
 - Using generators outside only and away from windows or doors
 - Never heat your home with a gas stovetop or oven
- **Flooded Roadways:**
 - **Turn Around, Don't Drown!** Do NOT Walk, swim, bike ride or drive through flood waters
 - Avoid downed power lines and broken gas lines
 - Six inches of moving water can knock an adult down off their feet
 - One foot of moving water can sweep a vehicle away
 - For more information on flooding visit: <https://www.ready.gov/floods>
 - San Diego County's Alert San Diego has sandbagging videos, tips, links to flood control webcams, driving safely in rainy conditions, reporting road hazards and more at: [Flooding](#)

Ideas to Consider:

Take the Shopping Sweepstakes Challenge: Emergency Preparedness Edition (\$20 at the 99¢ Only Store)
<https://www.countynewscenter.com/shopping-sweepstakes-emergency-preparedness-edition/>



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