



Blizzard Preparation Checklist

1. Fill the gas tank in your vehicle and make sure that the windshield washer fluid is filled up on your vehicles.
3. Make sure to top off food and bottled water from grocery store if needed.
4. Pull out generator and start it and plug a tool with an electric motor (drill, grinder, etc) into it and make sure it is working and fill tank with fuel and check oil. If it is a propane generator make sure you have a few extra propane tanks handy.
5. Get out extension cords and or make sure you know where the key is to unlock the transfer box if your home has one.
6. Make sure to have at least 10 gallons (40 pounds if propane) of extra fuel and have a funnel available if needed. If it is a propane generator make sure you have the hose that goes from the generator to the tank and the tools to connect it.
7. If you have a propane tank (that supplies your whole home) or fuel oil tank for heat make sure it is at least 40% full, perhaps schedule refill if there is time before the storm hits.
8. Pull out snow chains for vehicle and make sure they are good to go and that they still fit the current tire size on your vehicle.
9. Make sure you have a spare warm jacket, gloves, scarf, wool watch cap, blankets or sleeping bag, snow boots, emergency food and water in your car ready to go in case you get stuck in the snow unexpectedly.
10. Make sure to have a couple of heavy duty tow straps or heavy duty log chains and a 4 ton cable come-a-long and a shovel in your vehicle in case you go off the road and get stuck.
11. Add a couple of tubes of sand to the back of your vehicle for additional weight to help get better traction. The sand could also be used to give extra traction by pouring it under and in front of the tires if you were stuck on ice.
12. If your state allows studded snow tires get them out and make sure they are filled with air and put them on the vehicle ahead of time. Don't forget to re-torque the lug nuts after you have driven 5 to 10 miles.
13. Pull your snow blower out and start it up and make sure the tires are all aired up and good to go. If it is an electric start model then make sure to have the extension cord to plug it into the wall as well. Make sure to fill the gas tank and check the oil level as well. Start it up and make sure it is running properly.

14. If you have a tractor or an ATV/UTV with a snow blade, make sure it is on and adjusted properly and ready to rock and roll. Fill the ATV/UTV with fuel and check the oil.
15. Make sure you have your snow shovels and salt/ice melt out and ready for use.
16. Once it starts snowing, as the snow piles up make sure that your furnace and or heater vent do not get covered with snow so that they will be able to continue to function properly. If they get blocked they can throw the carbon monoxide levels off and the furnace may automatically shut off.
17. Make sure to have your backup heat source ready to go in case the power goes out. I prefer to use a propane powered heat source that is rated for indoor use. Using heaters that are not rated for indoor use can be deadly, do not take that chance. Make sure to have extra fuel.
18. Have your power outage kit out and ready to use. Make sure rechargeable batteries are charged up and ready to go.
19. Make sure you use up any foods in the refrigerator that are close to expiring.
20. Make sure you have plenty ice made or stop at a gas station and buy a couple of bags just in case you need to add it to your freezer to help stay cold longer during a power outage. Or make some ice blocks in zip lock bags to put in the freezer. This is done to fill up empty space inside the freezer to keep the temperature colder longer.
21. Make sure to wash all of your laundry and your dishes so that everything is clean that way you don't have to worry about that during a power outage should it occur.
22. Break out paper plates and plastic silverware so you don't have to wash dishes if the power goes out.
23. If you have a wood burning stove or pellet stove bring in extra wood or a couple of extra bags of pellets.
24. Make sure your solar generator is plugged in and fully charged. If you have solar panels to charge it make sure you know where they are and the cables are to connect them to the solar generator.
25. If you use temporary snow fence to keep snow from drifting across your driveway or walk ways make sure you have it put up and in place.
26. Make sure to locate your primary snow clothes (I prefer one piece coveralls, as they are much warmer for extended periods in the cold), also make sure your wool socks, gloves and watch cap, face mask, snow boots, etc are located and ready for use.
27. Make sure the hot cocoa is ready to go! If you have completed all of these items you should be ready to deal with a blizzard!