

Winterize Your Home

Winterize your house, barn, shed or any other structure that may provide shelter for your family, neighbors, livestock, or equipment.

Insulate walls and attics
Caulk and weather-strip doors and windows
Install storm windows or cover windows with plastic
Clear rain gutters
Repair roof leaks
Cut away tree branches that could fall on your house or other structure during a storm
Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected every year
Insulate pipes with insulation or newspapers and plastic and allow faucets to drip a little during cold weather to avoid freezing
Ensure that all fuel-burning equipment is vented to the outside and kept clear
Keep fire extinguishers on hand, and make sure everyone in your house knows how to use them. House fires pose an additional risk as more people turn to alternate heating sources without taking the necessary safety precautions.
Learn how to shut off water valves (in case a pipe bursts)
Hire a contractor to check the structural ability of the roof to sustain unusually heavy weight from the accumulation of snow - or water, if drains on flat roofs do not work