

While the danger from winter weather varies across the state, most Georgians are likely to face some type of severe winter weather at some point in their lives. That could mean snow or subfreezing temperatures, as well as strong winds or even ice or heavy rain storms. Winter storms, which often affect North Georgia, result in extreme cold, downed power lines and blocked roads and highways.

# PREPARE

- Make sure your home is well insulated and that you have weather stripping around your doors and window sills to keep the warm air inside.
- Familiarize yourself with the terms that are used to identify winter weather.
- Include adequate clothing and blankets in your Ready kit to keep you warm.
- Allow faucets to drip a little during cold weather to avoid freezing.
- Open cabinet doors to allow heat to get to uninsulated pipes under sinks and appliances near exterior walls.
- Fully winterize your vehicle and keep your gas tank at least half full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines

### **PLAN**

- Plan to stay inside and make it on your own, at least for a period of time.
- If you have a wood burning fireplace, consider storing wood to keep you warm if winter weather knocks out your heat.

### **STAY INFORMED**

- Listen to NOAA Weather Radio to stay informed of winter weather watches and warnings.
- Also monitor commercial radio, television and the Internet.
- Keep in mind that during a severe winter storm it could be hours, or even days, before emergency personnel are able to reach you.

## **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- Do you use communication devices?
- Do you depend on accessible transportation to get to work or to other places in your community?
- Do you receive medical treatments (e.g. dialysis) on a



regular basis?

- Do you need assistance with personal care?
- Do you rely on electrical equipment or other durable equipment?
- Do you use mobility aids such as a walker, cane, or a wheelchair?
- Do you have a service animal?

If you answered **YES** to any of these questions, **go to**: <u>www.ready.gov</u> or <u>www.nod.org</u> for more information.

### **GEORGIA HISTORY**

#### SEVERE WINTER WEATHER ADVISORIES

#### January 2000

A winter storm in January 2000 affected almost every North Georgia County as thousands of fans were arriving in Atlanta for Super Bowl Sunday.

#### <u>January 2010</u>

Georgia experienced a major winter storm with accumulation of several inches of snow and ice between Jan. 9 and 11 across the central and northern parts of the state. The incident occurred during the inauguration of Governor Elect Deal on Jan. 10, resulting in the cancellation of related events. Most school districts, including private and public colleges in central and north Georgia closed. Metro Atlanta came to a near standstill. State of Emergency Declared.

#### **WEB RESOURCES**

- <u>www.gema.ga.gov</u>
- www.fema.ga.gov
- <u>www.gachi.org</u>
- <u>http://ada.georgia.gov</u>
- <u>www.nod.org</u>

