

Winter Weather Information



Good Day Loudoun!

I'm sure you are aware that the National Weather Service has issued a [blizzard warning](#) that is anticipated to have a significant impact on our county. I wanted to share some pertinent information with you to keep handy as we encounter this severe weather this weekend. Be sure to visit Loudoun County's [winter weather page](#) for updates and information.

We encourage you not to venture out and drive in this storm. However, if you must venture out, please exercise extreme caution and be as safe as you possibly can. Here are some useful resources for you to weather the storm safely:

- Call 911 in a true emergency
- For current road conditions: call 511 or visit 511Virginia.org
- Report road problems: 1-800-FOR-ROADS (367-7623)
- 211 Virginia is serving as the public inquiry number for Virginia residents
- #77 on a cell to report a traffic crash or traffic emergency
- Loudoun County Sheriff non-emergency number: 703-777-1021
- Loudoun Water: 571-291-7878
- Washington Gas: 703-750-1400
- Follow [VDOT](#) and [VDOTNOVA](#) on Twitter
- Town of Leesburg Snow Removal: <http://www.leesburgva.gov/residents/winter-weather#hotline>
- Snow Plow Tracking: <http://novasnowplowing.virginia.gov/>

Report Power Outages:

- Dominion Power: 1-866-DOM-HELP (366-4357)
- NOVEC: 1-800-335-0500

Safety Tips:

- Visit www.vaemergency.gov/readyvirginia.
- Use flashlights for emergency lighting instead of candles.
- Unplug electrical equipment until a steady power supply returns.
- Practice proper generator and surface heater safety.
- Leave one light turned on so you know when power is restored.
- Eliminate unnecessary travel, especially by car. Traffic signals will stop working during an outage, creating traffic congestion. If you come upon a non-working traffic signal, treat each traffic light as a four-way stop, with the driver on the right having the right-of-way. Proceed with caution only when traffic permits and enter intersections only when it is safe to do so, using your turn signals to let other motorists know your intentions.
- If traffic signals are on flash, treat a flashing red as a stop (treat like a stop sign). For flashing yellow, proceed with caution.

The Loudoun Sheriff's Office reminds motorists to stay safe in the winter by also following these driving safety tips:

- Do not travel unless absolutely necessary. If you do have to make the trip, ensure someone is aware of your route of travel.
- Always keep the gas tank topped off. When it gets to half, fill it up.
- Turn on your headlights.
- Carry a cellular phone. Your cell phone can be used during emergencies and for notifying those expecting your arrival in case there are weather delays.
- Always buckle-up. Your seat belt can be the best protection against drivers who are tense and in a hurry because of weather conditions.
- Clear snow and ice from all windows and lights - even the hood and roof - before driving.
- Pay attention. Don't try to out-drive the conditions. Remember the posted speed limits are for dry pavement.
- Leave plenty of room for stopping.
- Leave room for maintenance vehicles and plows - stay back a safe stopping distance and don't pass on the right.
- Know the current road conditions: 511virginia.org for statewide highway information 24-hours-a-day, call the Highway Helpline at 1-800-367-ROAD or check local traffic incident information at sheriff.loudoun.gov/traffic.
- Use brakes carefully. Brake early. Brake correctly. It takes more time to stop in adverse conditions.
- Watch for slippery bridges, even when the rest of the pavement is in good condition. Bridges will ice up sooner than the adjacent pavement.

- Don't use your cruise control in wintry conditions. Even roads that appear clear can have sudden slippery spots and the short touch of your brakes to deactivate the cruise control feature can cause you to lose control of your vehicle.
- Don't get overconfident in your 4x4 vehicle. Remember that your four-wheel drive vehicle may help you get going quicker than other vehicles but it won't help you stop any faster.

Please stay safe this weekend.

Warm Regards,

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STAY CONNECTED:



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