

2015 CAMPAIGN



Weather Event	Stay Informed	Action to Take	Think of Others
Snow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Register with the Met Office email alerts Listen to local news/weather reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear snow from paths Prepare an emergency kit for your home Keep a blanket, food and water in your car Take extra care when walking, cycling or driving 	Once you are prepared see if there are others in your community who are more vulnerable that you can help
Ice		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salt/grit paths on your property Know where your stop valve is and how to turn off your water. Take extra care when walking, cycling or driving 	
Wind		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure loose objects such as ladders, garden furniture, wheelie bins, trampolines or anything else that could be blown around Park vehicles in a garage or keep them clear of buildings, trees, walls and fences 	
Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Register with Floodline & Met Office for alerts Listen to local news/weather reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a flood plan and put a family flood kit together so everyone knows what to do if flooding happens Familiarise yourself with how to shut off gas, electricity and water supplies Move important documents and valuable items to a higher place 	
Rain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Register with Met Office for alerts Listen to local news/weather reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take extra care when driving on wet roads and avoid walking or driving through flood water <<what other actions should people take for rain?>> 	

2015 CAMPAIGN



MESSAGES

General

- This year, people across Scotland are being reminded to act now and prepare for winter and severe weather so they can deal with extreme weather and events.
- Severe weather covers heavy rain, flooding, high winds, snow and ice.
- Whether it's at home, on the move, in the workplace, or in your community, we all need to consider the risk of severe weather
- Severe weather can occur at any time of year, but is most likely during the winter months. It can cause a range of problems – but you can be ready for them.
- Are you ready for severe weather? Could you deal with its consequences?
- Don't wait until it happens – doing a few small things now could save you a lot of trouble later, and it only takes a few simple steps
- By 'thinking ahead' we can all help Scotland be better prepared
- If you live in an area at risk of flooding, register with Floodline 0345 988 1188 for free alerts
- Download the Ready Scotland app to your smartphone
- More info on www.readyscotland.org

On the move

- Being prepared for severe weather is something we all need to do – it takes only a few simple steps and is important if you're on the move/road
- In severe weather conditions, your journey could take longer than expected
- Before travelling in bad weather, you should:
 - Check the weather forecast and road conditions
 - Consider whether you need to travel right now or if you can wait until the weather improves
 - Consider alternative routes
 - Consider alternative modes of transport
 - Allow extra time for your journey
 - Make sure your car is ready for a journey in poor weather
 - Make sure your mobile phone is fully charged
 - Set your car radio to auto travel bulletins
 - Tell someone your destination and when you expect to arrive
 - Consider fitting winter tyres to your vehicle
- Be prepared for severe weather by packing a few essential items to take with you. Your emergency kit should at least include:

Car

- An ice scraper and de-icer
- A shovel for snow
- A torch and spare batteries
- Warm clothes, boots and a blanket
- Some food and a warm drink in a flask
- A first aid kit
- Battery jump leads
- A map for any unplanned diversions

2015 CAMPAIGN



On public transport

- Dress for the season/forecast
- Have a means of contacting your family
- For a long journey, carry a small snack and some water if possible
- More info on www.readyscotland.org

Cycling

- Ensure you and your bike are visible to other road users by investing in a good set of front and rear lights (white at the front, red at the back).
- Wear clothes that help you be seen on your bike such as bright and light reflective items.
- Get a good set of mud guards and consider heavy duty tyres with a deeper tread to cope with slippery surfaces.
- Remember, it can take longer to stop in poor weather.
- Investing in some warm, waterproof clothing including gloves that still allow you to switch gears and use the brakes easily.
- Obey road signs and markings, particularly red lights, and do not cycle on the pavements which may be slippy.
- Consider wearing correctly-fitted helmets with an additional light.
- Get a routine bike maintenance check, especially the brakes.

For pedestrians

- Ensure that you, or someone you know clears the pavement outside your home
- Wear shoes or boots with non-slip soles and consider wearing reflective or bright-coloured clothing so other road users are better able to see you.
- Hats or scarves that cover your ears can also distort or eliminate the muffled sounds of approaching vehicles, so take extra care when checking for traffic.
- Keep warm, but make sure that you can hear what's going on around you.
- Follow all traffic signs and signals and, before you step off the kerb at crossings, make sure any oncoming vehicles have come to a complete stop.
- Do not cross the road when distracted, for example, while using your phone.
- Remember, vehicles can take up to ten times longer to stop on slippery surfaces, so don't make any sudden movements and give motorists plenty of time
- If walking home, particularly late at night, make sure someone knows when you are expected to arrive at your destination in case something happens which leaves you exposed to freezing temperatures for longer than planned

In the home

- Being prepared for severe weather is something we all need to do – it takes only a few simple steps and could save you a lot of trouble later
- Be prepared for severe weather by making your home more energy efficient, keeping it dry (protecting pipes and knowing how to turn off the water supply if you need to) and staying connected (keep a battery operated radio and a list of emergency contact numbers to hand)
- Know how to turn off your electricity
- If you live in an area at risk of flooding, plan how to make it harder for floodwater to get into the property
- Make sure you have access to a shovel and salt or grit, for clearing snow and ice from paths and drives.

2015 CAMPAIGN



- Get prepared at home by creating an emergency kit that contains what you need. Here are some things to include in your emergency kit:
 - Your household plan, including emergency contact numbers
 - A battery operated torch and spare batteries (or a wind up torch)
 - A battery operated radio and spare batteries (or a wind up radio)
 - Any essential medication, some toiletries and a first aid kit
 - Three days' supply of bottled water and ready to eat food (that won't go off)
 - Copies of important documents like insurance policies and birth certificates, in case you need to locate these quickly or prove your identity
 - Pencil, paper, a penknife and a whistle
 - Spare keys to your home and car
 - Spare glasses or contact lenses
- Think about what else is important for you and your family to get by during an emergency e.g.
 - Pet supplies
 - Food supplies
 - Formula/baby food
- Consider asking your children to make their own emergency pack of items they would want to take at short notice
- More info on www.readyscotland.org
- Register for Floodline
- Move important documents or items to a place that will reduce likelihood of them being damaged in the event of flooding.

In the community

- In previous years severe weather left some people vulnerable. Helping each other a little, can make a big difference.
- A little planning now could save a lot of trouble later
- Identify family or neighbours who may need an extra helping hand if severe weather strikes
- Have their phone numbers to hand
- Offer to help with grocery shopping or other essential tasks
- Clear ice or snow from pathways
- There are many great opportunities to help others by volunteering with an existing organisation. Contact www.volunteerscotland.org.uk
- If you are part of a community group, think about what your group can do to help others during bad weather.
- Communities across Scotland have already made plans to cope when severe weather strikes. See how other communities have worked together to get ready for severe weather and other emergencies at www.readyscotland.org.
- If you want to play a part in making your community more prepared, more info on help and support available is at www.readyscotland.org

In the workplace

- Whether you're self-employed, manage a small team or run a large business, checking now that you and your employees are ready for all kinds of severe weather can save a lot of trouble when it arrives
- Severe weather affects us all in different ways – take time to think about how it might affect your business and get ready in ways that are cost effective and suit your circumstances

2015 CAMPAIGN



- Be prepared for severe weather by ensuring that you have appropriate insurance cover for all aspects of your business
- Encourage your staff to talk about how severe weather may affect your business and share ideas on how best to avoid disruption
- Some staff may be unable to get to work – make sure you know how you would operate in their absence and consider remote flexible working
- Plan ahead and talk to your staff about what 'essential travel' means for them and your business
- Being prepared for all kinds of severe weather; and looking after your staff and customers will help maintain cash-flow and help build a reputation for reliability
- Think ahead and plan how you would operate if you couldn't access or use part of your premises, or how you would evacuate staff or stock
- Put contingency plans in place for how you would manage if there was a power, phone or other utility failure
- Getting ready for severe weather is a good opportunity to check that you are not taking unnecessary risks elsewhere in your business, such as equipment or IT failure
- Put plans in place and make the most of social media and other communication channels during periods of severe weather to maintain regular contact with customers, suppliers and staff to help overcome problems
- Do you have alternative arrangements in case your suppliers suffer a disruption to their business?
- Plan for the impact severe weather might have on meeting obligations to your customers