

Severe Weather Awareness and Preparedness

UB Business Day 2018



“Winter” Weather



November 15, 2014



November 18, 2014

Non-Winter Severe Weather



National Weather Service

WARNING

A warning is issued when a hazardous weather or hydrologic event is **occurring, imminent or likely**. A warning means weather conditions pose a threat to life or property. People in the path of the storm need to **take protective action**.

WATCH

A watch is used when the **risk of a hazardous weather or hydrologic event has increased significantly**, but its occurrence, location or timing is **still uncertain**. A watch means that hazardous weather is possible. People should **have a plan of action** in case a storm threatens and they should listen for later information and possible warnings especially when planning travel or outdoor activities.

ADVISORY

An advisory is issued when a hazardous weather or hydrologic event is **occurring, imminent or likely**. Advisories are for **less serious conditions than warnings**, that cause significant inconvenience and if caution is not exercised, could lead to situations that may threaten life or property.

OUTLOOK

An outlook is issued when a hazardous weather or hydrologic event is **possible** in the next week. Outlooks are intended to **raise awareness** of the potential for significant weather that could lead to situations that may threaten life or property.



Winter Warnings, Watches, and Advisories

- ❄️ Warning – Issued when 4 or more inches of snow or sleet are expected in the next 12 hours, or 6 or more inches in 24 hours, or ½ inch or more of ice will accumulate. Also may be issued during high-traffic times. Stay indoors, keep warm and dry, minimize outdoor travel.
- ❄️ Watch – severe winter conditions may affect the area but the timing and location are uncertain. May be issued from 12-36 hours in advance of a storm. Monitor the weather situation and plan accordingly.
- ❄️ Advisory – conditions are expected to cause significant inconvenience and may be hazardous. If caution is used, conditions should not be life-threatening.



Important Information for UB

UB Emergency Page - <http://emergency.buffalo.edu>

[UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO POLICY LIBRARY](#)

REVISED POLICY

Change in Scheduled Operations Policy

Summary

Under certain emergency conditions, it may become necessary to change scheduled operations or close* the university. This policy provides guidance for timely decision making and communication to disseminate information about a change in scheduled operations.

Policy Statement

The University at Buffalo (UB, university) requires scheduled operations to continue as long as possible, essential university services to be maintained, and university employees to remain on duty when necessary to perform essential services even under extraordinary emergency circumstances. However, when conditions become so severe that the university cannot operate effectively, the President (or designee) may make a decision to change scheduled operations resulting in class cancellations, an early departure*, or a closing*.

* Only the governor can officially declare that the University at Buffalo is closed or direct early departure and only the governor can authorize employees to remain away from work without charge to leave accruals. A declaration of emergency, even by the governor, does not automatically mean the closure of the university.

Change in Scheduled Operations - Considerations

The decision to change scheduled operations resulting in class cancellations, an early departure, or a closing is based on various factors including, but not limited to:

- hazards that represent a risk to the safety of any member of the campus community
- regional weather conditions
- equipment failures or disruption of utilities
- travel bans or restrictions implemented by local jurisdictional government agencies
- contamination by hazardous materials
- ability to keep the campus facilities, roadways, and parking lots open
- acts of violence or terrorism
- directives issued by the Governor's Office of Employee Relations.

There may be instances when emergency conditions require a change in operations for only one campus (North, South, or Downtown). In these instances, the communication plan will ensure widespread coverage of the information to applicable stakeholders. Consideration will be given to the nature of the emergency and any protective actions issued by local, county, or state government agencies.

Resuming Operations

In the event of a delay or cancellation of classes or events, the decision to resume scheduled operations will be made by the President and announced to the campus community using the communications plan. Key internal and external stakeholders will make a recommendation to the President based on full or partial restoration of UB's operational capabilities and the effects of the emergency that resulted in the change in scheduled operations.

Important Information for UB

Sign Up for UB Alert

Quick communication and accurate information are essential in an emergency.

The University at Buffalo offers a free service that delivers text messages and email messages to UB students, faculty, and staff during emergencies, incidents that may affect personal safety and when adverse weather conditions affect normal campus operations.

Why sign up for UB Alert?

- Members of the UB community can expect to receive quick and accurate information during an urgent situation, including changes in essential services, whether it's an incident on campus, or severe weather that affects university operations.
- Any UB student, staff or faculty member with a "@buffalo.edu" e-mail account (your UBITName plus "@buffalo.edu") can subscribe.
- Stay safe and be informed. You'll always get @buffalo.edu emails, but this way you can add your cellphone or alternate email addresses, such as your Yahoo! or Gmail account.
- It's free (subscribers may incur text messaging charges depending on their wireless service provider and plan).

[Sign Up Now](#)

[Read FAQs](#)

This system is designed to send messages to recipients' cell phones, smartphones and UB email addresses.

You must have a buffalo.edu email account to register for this system. Once you have registered, you can request that text messages be sent to your cell phone or additional email addresses.

Some smartphone, prepay or "minutes" cell phone plans may not work with the emergency notification system. [Consult the FAQ](#) to see if you are affected.

The university has in place several other channels to communicate with UB students, faculty and staff during an emergency, including: a UB Alert email listserv for all faculty, staff and students, [emergency.buffalo.edu](#), [UB homepage](#), [My UB](#), [the UB Reporter](#), [716-645-News](#), [UB Alert Twitter feed](#) and UB Facebook pages.



Dressing for Cold Weather

DRESSING FOR COLD WEATHER

adding layers will help keep you warm as the temperature drops

CHILLY

- 1-2 layers
- outer layer to keep out wind, rain
- long layer
- warm shoes water proof

COLD

- 2-3 layers
- warm hat
- outer layer to keep out wind, wet snow
- gloves
- boots water proof
- 1-2 layers

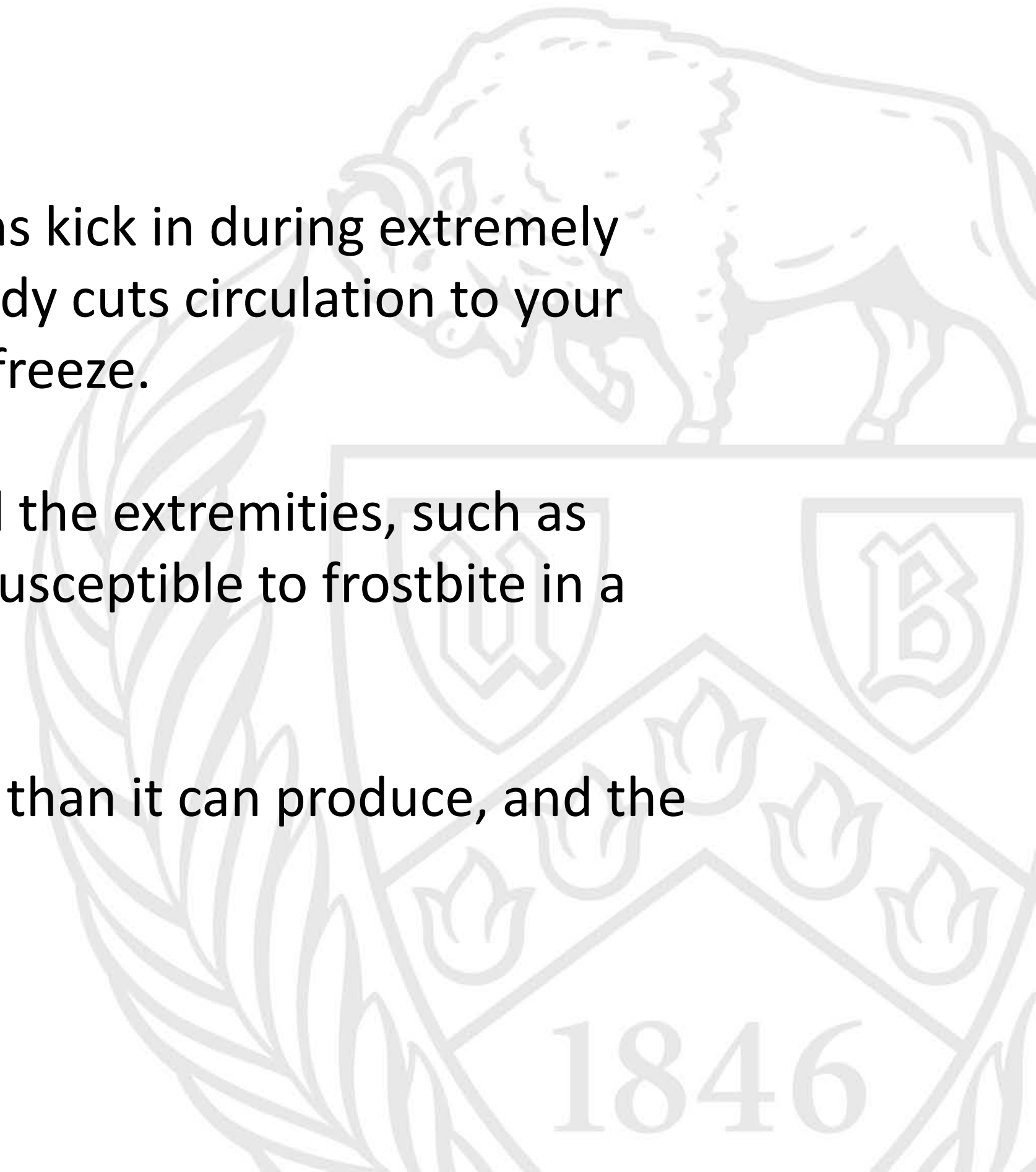
EXTREME COLD

- 3+ layers 1 insulating
- warm hat
- face mask
- outer layer to keep out wind
- gloves
- boots water proof
- 2+ layers

 weather.gov/safety

Extreme Cold: Frostbite and Hypothermia

- ❄ Frostbite occurs when the body's survival mechanisms kick in during extremely cold weather. To protect the vital inner organs, the body cuts circulation to your extremities: feet, hands, nose, etc., which eventually freeze.
- ❄ Areas most prone to frostbite are uncovered skin and the extremities, such as hands and feet. People exposed to extreme cold are susceptible to frostbite in a matter of minutes.
- ❄ Hypothermia occurs when the body loses heat faster than it can produce, and the body's temperature sinks to below 96°F, or 36°C.



Warning Signs of Hypothermia



[weather.gov/cold](https://www.weather.gov/cold)

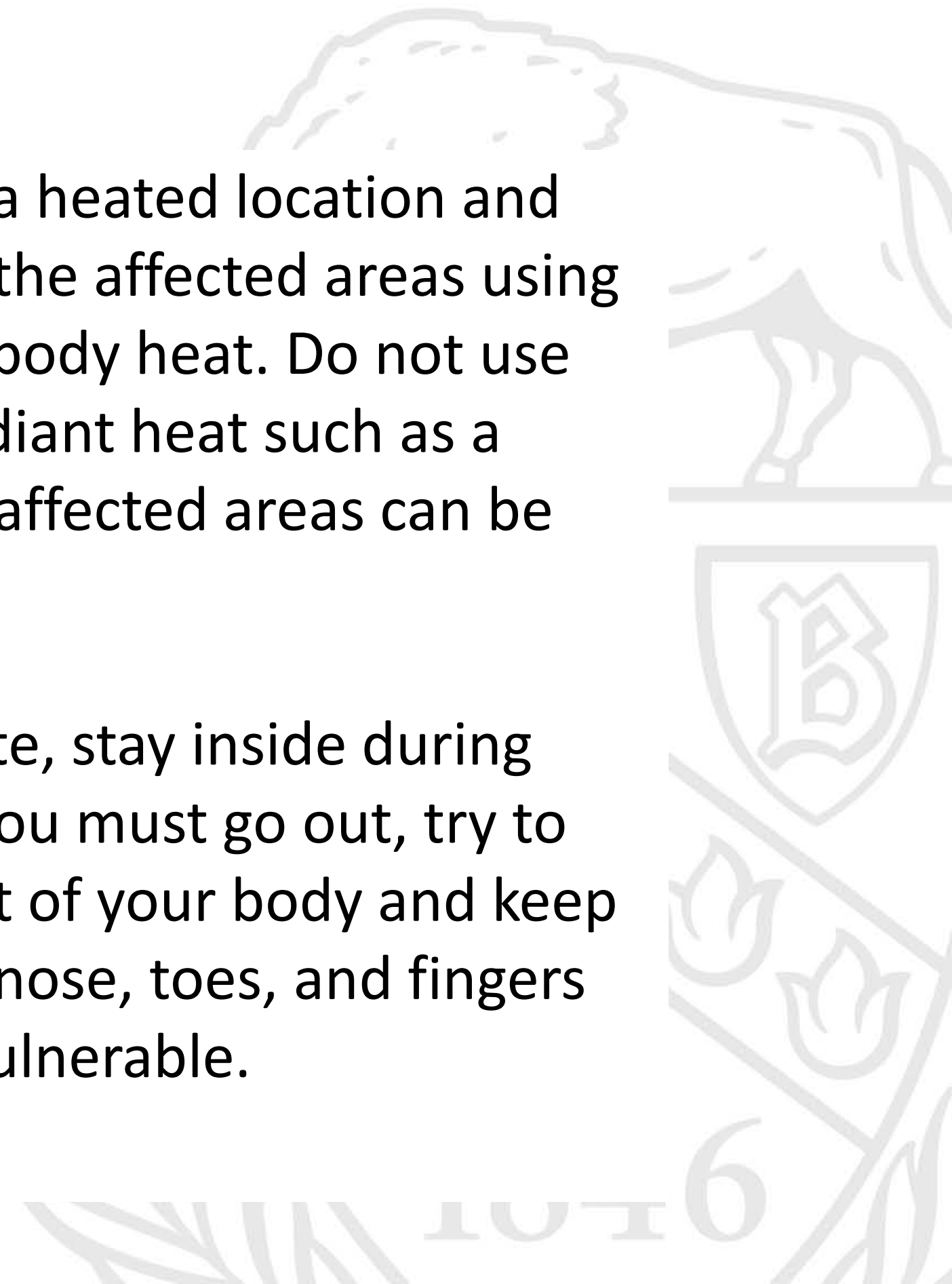


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If You Have Frostbite:



- ❄️ Move inside to a heated location and begin warming the affected areas using warm water or body heat. Do not use hot water or radiant heat such as a fireplace, since affected areas can be easily burned.
- ❄️ To avoid frostbite, stay inside during severe cold. If you must go out, try to cover every part of your body and keep them dry. Ears, nose, toes, and fingers are especially vulnerable.



How to Prepare for Winter Weather

- ❄️ **Check the Forecast at [weather.gov](https://www.weather.gov) or your favorite weather app, station, etc.:** Make checking the forecast part of your regular routine so you'll know when to expect cold weather.
- ❄️ **Adjust Your Schedule:** If possible, adjust your schedule to avoid being outside during the coldest part of the day, typically the early morning.
- ❄️ **Fill up the tank:** Make sure your car or vehicle has at least a half a tank of gas during extreme cold situations so that you can stay warm if you become stranded.
- ❄️ **Update Your Winter Preparedness Kit** Make sure your kit has appropriate items for winter weather preparedness.

How to Prepare for Severe Weather

Update Your Preparedness Kit



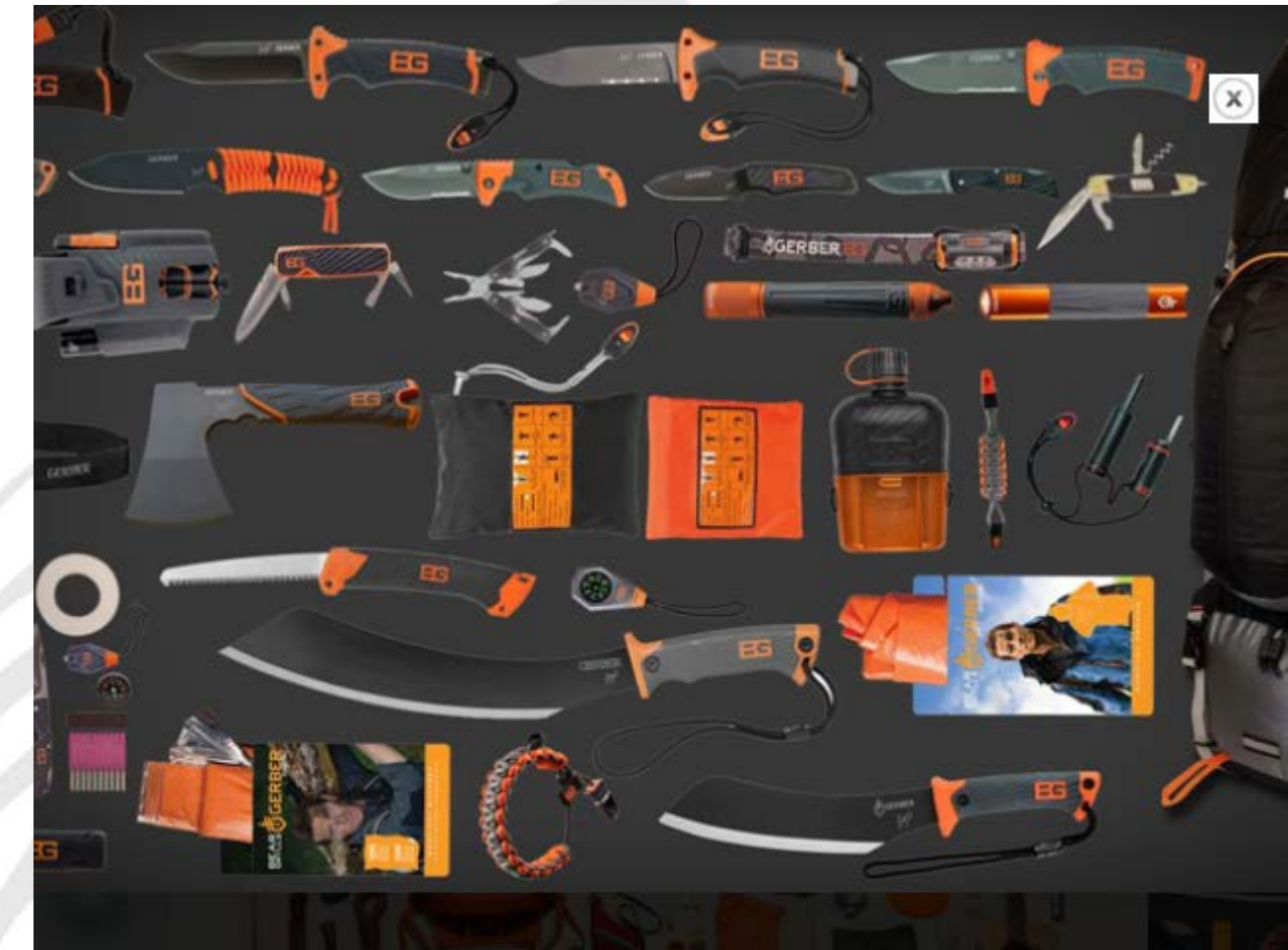
THE DESIGNER

Clearly an impeccably designed wheel of chocolate will not sustain you for a week, but use your favorites as a base and build around it.



THE WOODSMAN

This is probably far more than any one person would ever need. You can probably skip the guitar and portable stove, and stick with the basics like **warm clothes** and a **sturdy pair of shoes**.



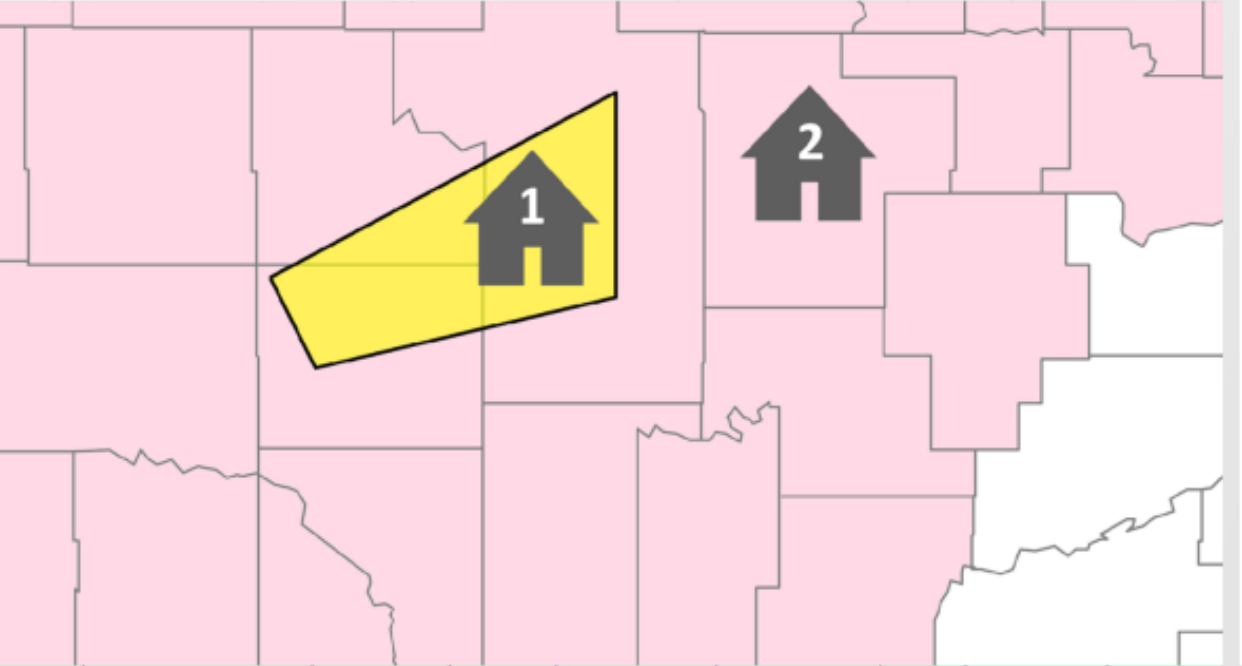
THE SURVIVALIST

A knife (or 20, if you're Bear Grylls) is a useful multi-purpose tool for survival. Don't forget to pack essentials like **non-perishable food** and **bottled water**.

Spring Weather

Spring Weather Safety

NWS Severe Thunderstorm Products



The map displays two types of weather alerts: a yellow shaded area labeled '1' representing a Severe Thunderstorm Warning, and a pink shaded area labeled '2' representing a Severe Thunderstorm Watch. The background of the map is light pink.

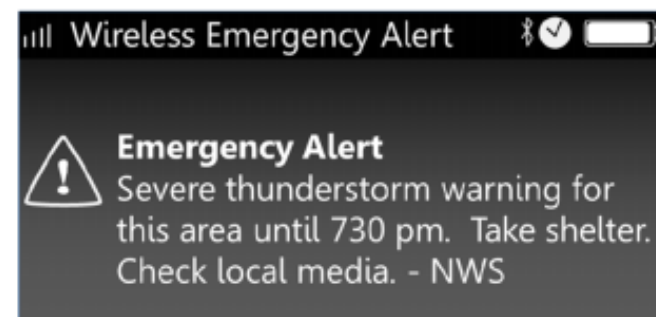
weather.gov/safety

1 Severe Thunderstorm Warning

Severe storms expected! Seek shelter. Large hail or damaging wind is occurring or will shortly at this location on the map.

2 Severe Thunderstorm Watch

Severe storms possible. Be prepared. Weather conditions favor thunderstorms capable of producing large hail or damaging wind at this location on the map.



Spring Weather Safety

Heavy Rain

- Heavy rain on saturated soil can lead to flooding
- More than half of all flood fatalities are vehicle-related
- It only takes 12 inches of rushing water to carry away a small car
- Turn around, don't drown!



Extreme Heat

FACT: Buffalo, NY is one of 2 major US cities never to register a temperature of 100 degrees F or higher!

Who can guess the other?



BEAT THE HEAT: Extreme Heat
Heat related deaths are preventable

WHAT: Extreme heat or heat waves occur when the temperature reaches extremely high levels or when the combination of heat and humidity causes the air to become oppressive.

WHO: More males than females are affected. Children, Older adults, Outside workers.

WHERE: Houses with little to no AC, Construction workites, Cars.

HOW to AVOID: Stay hydrated with water, avoid sugary beverages; Stay cool in an air conditioned area; Wear light-weight, light colored, loose fitting clothes.

HEAT EXHAUSTION	OR	HEAT STROKE
Faint or dizzy		Throbbing headache
Excessive sweating		No sweating
Cool, pale, clammy skin		Body temperature above 103° Red, hot, dry skin
Nausea or vomiting		Nausea or vomiting
Rapid, weak pulse		Rapid, strong pulse
Muscle cramps		May lose consciousness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get to a cooler, air conditioned place Drink water if fully conscious Take a cool shower or use cold compresses 		<p>CALL 9-1-1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take immediate action to cool the person until help arrives

Car Preparedness

Although unlikely, there have been cases of people stranded in their cars on the Thruway in Buffalo.



Pet Preparedness

Make sure you have plans for your pets!

PRACTICE MAKES PAW-FECT

Practice evacuating with your pet to reduce stress in the event of an emergency.



[READY.GOV/PETS](https://www.ready.gov/pets)

Ready, set, selfie with your pet!

Have a current photo of you with your pet in case you are separated during a disaster.



[READY.GOV/PETS](https://www.ready.gov/pets)

Zombie Apocalypse

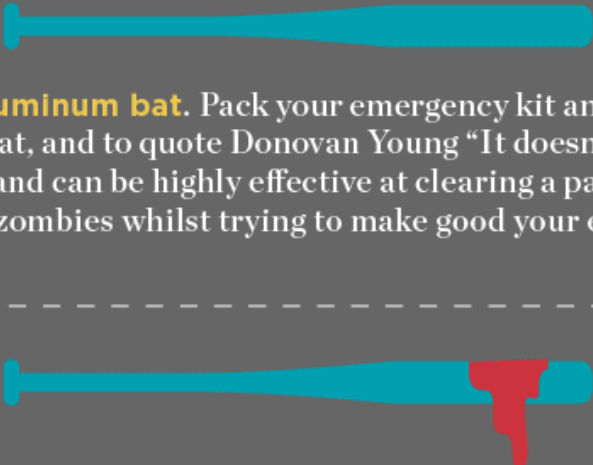


EMERGENCY PLAN

PREPARATION

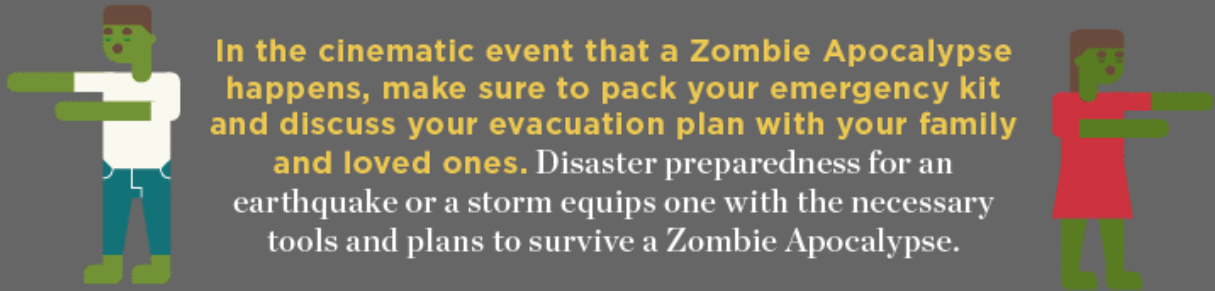


Picking your fort. May it be a mall or a veterinarian's country home, make sure that you limit the accessibility of your safe place by having only one entrance and exit



Plus an aluminum bat. Pack your emergency kit and add an aluminum bat, and to quote Donovan Young "It doesn't require ammunition and can be highly effective at clearing a path through hordes of zombies whilst trying to make good your escape."

Talk to your family and loved ones that death is imminent once you've been bitten by a zombie.



In the cinematic event that a Zombie Apocalypse happens, make sure to pack your emergency kit and discuss your evacuation plan with your family and loved ones. Disaster preparedness for an earthquake or a storm equips one with the necessary tools and plans to survive a Zombie Apocalypse.

THANK YOU!



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