

## More winter weather information:

Lake Effect Snow Warning: Issued when heavy lake effect snow is on it's way or occurring.

Lake Effect Snow Advisory: Issued when accumulation of lake effect snow will cause significant problems.

Blowing snow: Wind-driven snow that reduces visibility and causes significant drifting.



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Source:

<http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories/s794c.htm>

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## Winter Survival



## Winter Weather Information:

**Blizzards:** Winds of 35 mph or more with blowing snow reducing visibility to less than ¼ mile for at least 3 hours. <sup>1</sup>

**Snow Showers:** Snow falling at varying intensities for brief periods of time. Some accumulation is possible. <sup>1</sup>

**Snow Flurries:** Light snow falling for short durations with no accumulation. Light dusting is all that is expected. <sup>1</sup>

**Sleet:** Rain drops that freeze into ice pellets before reaching the ground. Sleet will bounce when hitting a surface and does not stick to objects. Accumulation is hazardous.

**Freezing Rain:** Rain that falls onto a surface with a temperature below freezing. This causes it to freeze to surfaces, such as trees, cars, and roads, forming a coating or glaze of ice. Even small accumulations are hazardous.

**Ice Storms:** A type of winter storm characterized by significant amounts of freezing rain. <sup>1</sup>

## Public Warnings for Winter Weather:

**Winter Storm Outlook:** Issued prior to a Winter Storm Watch, when forecasters believe winter storm conditions are possible, usually issued 3 to 5 days in advance of a winter storm.

**“Watch”:** There is a good chance that the weather in question may come to our area during a certain time frame based on the current weather conditions (i.e. “Winter Storm Watch”).

**“Warning”:** Issued when the weather in question has begun to happen (i.e. frost/ freeze warning, winter storm warning, blizzard warning).

**Winter Storm Warning:** Issued when hazardous winter weather in the form of heavy snow, heavy freezing rain, or heavy sleet is imminent or occurring. Winter Storm Warnings are usually issued 12 to 24 hours before the event is expected to begin.

**Wind Chill Warning:** Issued when wind chill temperatures are expected to be hazardous to life within several minutes of exposure.

**Winter Weather Advisories:** Issued for accumulations of snow, freezing rain, freezing drizzle, and sleet which will cause significant inconveniences. If caution is not exercised, this could lead to life-threatening situations.

**Wind Chill Advisory:** Issued when wind chill temperatures are expected to be a significant inconvenience to life with prolonged exposure, and if caution is not exercised, could lead to hazardous exposure.

**Dense Fog Advisory:** Issued when fog will reduce visibility to ¼ mile or less over a widespread area.

