



# **MCINCR-MCBQ Winter Weather Preparation Guide Jan 2026**

**Prepared by the Installation Protection Branch, G-3, MCINCR-MCBQ**



# Background



- Potential for significant snowfall and frigid temperatures this weekend, 24-25 January 2026.
- Preparing your home, car and family before cold weather and a winter storm arrives is critical. Don't wait until the last second – the shelves will be bare.

**Sat 24**  
Day  
**21°** ☁️ ❄️ 41%  
⇨ NNE 11 mph  
Cloudy. Snow showers developing in the afternoon. High 21F. Winds NNE at 10 to 15 mph. Chance of snow 40%.  
Night  
**14°** ☁️ ❄️ 98%  
⇨ NE 9 mph  
Watching a potential winter storm. Snow likely. Low 14F. Winds NE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of snow 100%. 8 to 12 inches of snow expected.  
UV Index 2 of 11  
Sunrise 7:20 am  
Sunset 5:22 pm  
Moonrise 10:16 am  
Moonset 11:46 pm  
Waxing Crescent

**Sun 25**  
Day  
**23°** ☁️ ❄️ 96%  
⇨ NNE 9 mph  
Watching a potential winter storm. Cloudy with a mixture of winter precipitation. High 23F. Winds NNE at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precip 100%. 3 to 5 inches of snow and ice expected.  
Night  
**19°** ☁️ ❄️ 56%  
⇨ NNW 6 mph  
A mix of wintry precipitation in the evening. Then a few snow showers lingering overnight. Very cold. Low 19F. Winds NNW at 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precip 60%. Snow and ice accumulations less than one inch.  
Humidity 91%  
UV Index 1 of 11  
Sunrise 7:19 am  
Sunset 5:23 pm  
Moonrise 10:43 am  
Moonset --  
First Quarter

**Key Messages for Major January Winter Storm**  
Issued: Wed, Jan 21, 2026 5:35 AM EST  
Widespread Heavy Snow and Dangerous Ice Expected Friday Through Monday

- **Significant Winter Storm**  
An expansive winter storm will produce swaths of heavy snow, sleet, and freezing rain from the Southern Rockies and Plains into the Mid-South starting Friday and shifting across the East Coast this weekend, possibly through Monday for New England. Extreme cold in the wake of this system will prolong snow and ice impacts.
- **Heavy Snow**  
Expect heavy snow for the Southern Rockies and the south-central Plains eastward through the Mid-Atlantic. Snow-covered roads and low visibility will cause widespread travel disruptions.
- **Dangerous Ice**  
Broad swaths of freezing rain and sleet are expected south of the all-snow zone over the Southern Plains, Mid-South, and Carolinas. Treacherous travel conditions, prolonged power outages, and tree damage are likely.
- **Forecast Uncertainty**  
Confidence is high that a significant storm will occur, but not on specific details for the storm track, timing, and precipitation amounts. Start preparations now for an impactful and prolonged winter storm and keep up to date with the forecast.

**Chance of AT LEAST Moderate Snow & Ice Impacts**  
Fri, Jan 23 - Mon, Jan 26

**Most Likely WSSI Hazard Type**

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
For more information go to:  
[www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov](http://www.wpc.ncep.noaa.gov) and [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov)  
Weather Prediction Center  
College Park, Maryland



# Home Preparation



- Check and update your family's emergency supply kit before winter approaches. Include warm clothing and blankets and replace any expired food or medication.
- Heat your home safely: Keep space heaters at least three feet from other objects and plug all heating devices directly into an outlet; never use an extension cord.
- Avoid using candles during power outages, as many home fires in winter are caused by candles. Flashlights are much safer; make sure you have plenty of extra batteries.
- If you have pets, bring them inside.
- Check on your neighbors, especially the elderly, who may need help shoveling or picking up groceries or medication.
- Protect your pipes by insulating them or leaving faucets drip during severe cold.
- If you don't have a snow shovel, get one now. Do not wait until Friday evening to purchase your necessities.



# Emergency Kit



Collect these essential supplies for each member of your family. **Plan to live off your kit for at least 3 days:**

- Food that won't spoil and doesn't need electricity to prepare.
- One gallon of water per person, per day for drinking and hygiene.
- A written family emergency plan.
- A battery-powered and/or hand crank radio and a flashlight with extra batteries.
- A portable and/or vehicle charger and cable for your cell phone.
- Medications.
- Distilled water for CPAP.
- Additional recommendations for the kit can be found [here.](#)



# Travel Preparation



- The safest place during a winter storm is indoors. Try to get where you need to be before the weather gets bad. Most traffic crashes happen within the first two hours after a storm starts.
- If you must drive during a winter storm: Make sure you know the road conditions before you leave.
- Snowplows start on roads that carry the most traffic and then move to smaller roads. Stay off the road to give plows time and space to work.
- If stranded, do not leave your vehicle.
- Go to [511 Virginia](https://511.virginia.gov) or dial 511 to get real-time traffic information and road conditions. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) also offers real-time snow plowing information at <https://plows.vdot.virginia.gov/public/map>
- It's also important to keep at least 1/2 a tank of fuel and update your vehicle's emergency kit with warm clothing and blankets in case you are stranded.



# Personal Safety



- Protect yourself from frostbite by covering all exposed skin, even if you will be outside for a short period of time.
- Wear several layers of loose-fitting, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing.
- Never use a generator indoors or within 20 feet of your house.
- Have working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms on every floor.
- If you use your car to stay warm or charge devices, make sure it's outside the garage.
- Never use an oven to produce heat for your home.
- Be safe when using generators and heating devices: Never use a generator, grill, camp stove, or portable propane, fuel oil, or charcoal-burning heater inside your home, garage, or other partially enclosed area. These devices produce carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless gas that can kill you.



# Resource Links



- [Stafford County Emergency Management Winter Weather Preparedness](#)
- [Prince William County Emergency Management Winter Weather Preparedness](#)
- [Spotsylvania County Emergency Management Winter Weather Preparedness](#)
- Sign up for the Quantico Mass Notification System [here](#)