



## Important Emergency Management Numbers

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### EMERGENCY

#### FIRE-POLICE-AMBULANCE

**RMTC: (501)-212-5280      Quick EXT (5280)**

**CMTC: (479)-484-2666      Quick EXT (2911)**

**WHEN ON AN INSTALLATION SUCH AS CHAFFEE OR  
ROBINSON**

**CONTACT THE POST EMERGENCY DISPATCH CENTER  
FIRST AS 911 RESPONSE MAY BE DELAYED DUE TO  
PHYSICAL SECURITY MEASURES.**

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### Inside this edition:

- December Average Temperatures.
- Safeguarding Your Personal and Financial Records.
- Have a Safe Holiday.
- Build a Winter Emergency Kit for Your Car.
- Be Prepared for Power Outages.
- Remember OPSEC.

Power outages in your area may mean traffic lights and other resources will not be working. You should consider how these circumstances will affect your Family and be prepared to manage without power for an extended period of time. Some emergencies commonly produce secondary effects. Learning about all hazards will prepare your for secondary hazards effects from events like power outage and flooding. Flooding is the most common natural disaster and can occur anywhere. Flooding can be localized in a particular neighbor hood or widespread, affecting entire cities or large portions of the state.

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# ARKANSAS WEATHER

## Average December temperatures across Arkansas.

Eastern Arkansas Average December temperatures				
High °F	Low °F	Place	High °C	Low °C
48	32	Blytheville	9	0
58	36	Eudora	15	2
55	31	Helena	13	-1
48	29	Jonesboro	9	-2
51	34	Marianna	11	1
51	33	West Memphis	10	1

Eastern Arkansas Average December temperatures				
High °F	Low °F	Place	High °C	Low °C
48	32	Blytheville	9	0
58	36	Eudora	15	2
55	31	Helena	13	-1
48	29	Jonesboro	9	-2
51	34	Marianna	11	1
51	33	West Memphis	10	1

Central Arkansas Average December temperatures				
High °F	Low °F	Place	High °C	Low °C
54	33	Benton	12	0
51	31	Blue Mountain	11	0
52	31	Fort Smith	11	0
53	34	Hot Springs	12	1
52	30	Lake Ouachita Dam	11	-1
52	34	Little Rock	11	1
51	30	Mena	11	-1
51	35	North Little Rock	11	2
51	30	Searcy	10	-1

Northern Arkansas Average December temperatures				
High °F	Low °F	Place	High °C	Low °C
48	26	Bentonville	9	-3
47	29	Eureka Springs	9	-2
48	29	Fayetteville	9	-2
50	30	Greers Ferry	10	-1
48	28	Harrison	9	-2
47	28	Mountain Home	9	-2
50	29	Mountain View	10	-2

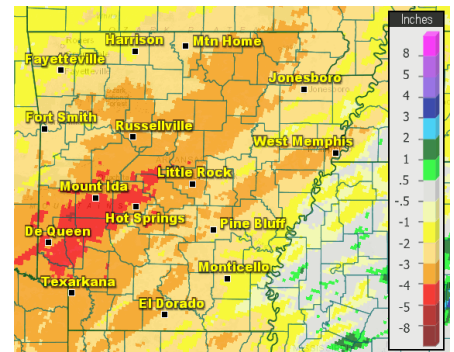
### References

[Currentresults.com](http://Currentresults.com)

Weather and science facts

Looking back to 2019

National Weather Service [NWS Little Rock, AR -](https://www.weather.gov/lrk)



In the picture: Departure from average precipitation in December, 2019



In the pictures: Temperatures were mostly in the 60s and 70s at 100 pm CST on 12/09/2019. Twenty four hours later, readings were in the mid 30s to lower 40s.

# SAFEGUARDING YOUR PERSONAL AND FINANCIAL RECORDS

## Safeguarding your Personal and Financial Records

**Step 1:** Gather your personal and financial documents – Use the following checklist to help you gather and organize your valuable documents.

### Personal Records:

- ☐ Military ID Cards and Passports
- ☐ Insurance Records (medical cards and records, auto, life, group accident and home or rental insurance)
- ☐ Bank/credit union statements
- ☐ Birth certificates or adoption papers
- ☐ Marriage license and divorce decrees
- ☐ Social Security cards
- ☐ Citizenship papers
- ☐ Wills and record of beneficiaries
- ☐ Pet proof of ownership and vaccination records
- ☐ Vehicle registration/ownership records
- ☐ Powers of attorney (personal/property)

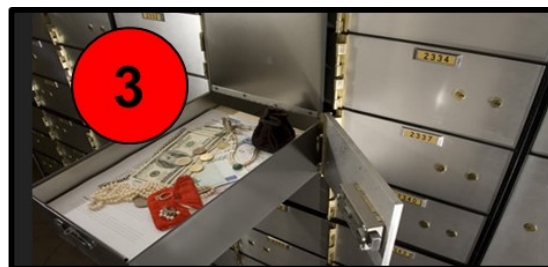


**Step 2:** Put copies of your documents in a waterproof, portable emergency supply kit.

- ☐ Financial Records:
- ☐ Tax returns and property tax statements
- ☐ Bank/credit union statements
- ☐ Credit/debit card statements
- ☐ Investment and retirement account records
- ☐ All income records (including government benefits, child support and alimony)
- ☐ Mortgage statement or lease
- ☐ Bills (electric, gas, water, phone, etc.)



**Step 3:** Store all original documents, photographs and computer backup disks in an off-site safety deposit box. Be sure to keep this key in a secure place.





# HAVE A SAFE HOLIDAY

## Holiday Home Safety Tips

The winter holidays are a time for celebration, and that means more cooking, home decorating, entertaining, and an increased risk of fire and accidents. The International Association of Certified Home Inspectors recommends that you follow these guidelines to help make your holiday season safer and more enjoyable.

### Holiday Lighting

- Use caution with holiday decorations and, whenever possible, choose those made with flame-resistant, flame-retardant and non-combustible materials.
- Keep candles away from decorations and other combustible materials, and do not use candles to decorate Christmas trees.
- Carefully inspect new and previously used light strings, and replace damaged items before plugging lights in. If you have any questions about electrical safety, ask an InterNACHI inspector during your next scheduled inspection. Do not overload extension cords.
- Don't mount lights in any way that can damage the cord's wire insulation. To hold lights in place, string them through hooks or insulated staples--don't use nails or tacks.

Never pull or tug lights to remove them.

- Keep children and pets away from light strings and electrical decorations.
- Never use electric lights on a metallic tree. The tree can become charged with electricity from faulty lights, and a person touching a branch could be electrocuted.
- Before using lights outdoors, check labels to be sure they have been certified for outdoor use.
- Make sure all the bulbs work and that there are no frayed wires, broken sockets or loose connections.
- Plug all outdoor electric decorations into circuits with ground-fault circuit interrupters to avoid potential shocks.
- Turn off all lights when you go to bed or leave the house. The lights could short out and start a fire



### Decorations

- Use only non-combustible and flame-resistant materials to trim a tree. Choose tinsel and artificial icicles of plastic and non-leaded metals.
- Never use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens. Always use non-flammable holders, and place candles where they will not be knocked down.
- In homes with small children, take special care to avoid decorations that are sharp and breakable, and keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of children.
- Avoid trimmings that resemble candy and food that may tempt a young child to put them in his mouth.



### Holiday Home Safety Tips Continued

#### Holiday Entertaining

- Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the U.S. When cooking for holiday visitors, remember to keep an eye on the range.
- Provide plenty of large, deep ashtrays, and check them frequently. Cigarette butts can smolder in the trash and cause a fire, so completely douse cigarette butts with water before discarding.
- Keep matches and lighters up high, out of sight and reach of children (preferably in a locked cabinet).
- Test your smoke alarms, and let guests know what your fire escape plan is.



#### Trees

- When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "fire-resistant."
- When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness. A fresh tree is green, needles are hard to pull from branches, and when bent between your fingers, needles do not break.
- When setting up a tree at home, place it away from fireplaces, radiators and portable heaters. Place the tree out of the way of traffic and do not block doorways.
- Cut a few inches off the trunk of your tree to expose the fresh wood. This allows for better water absorption and will help to keep your tree from drying out and becoming a fire hazard.
- Be sure to keep the stand filled with water, because heated rooms can dry live trees out rapidly.
- Make sure the base is steady so the tree won't tip over easily.



#### Fireplaces

- Before lighting any fire, remove all greens, boughs, papers and other decorations from fireplace area. Check to see that the flue is open.
- Use care with "fire salts," which produce colored flames when thrown on wood fires. They contain heavy metals that can cause intense gastrointestinal irritation and vomiting if eaten.
- Do not burn wrapping papers in the fireplace. A flash fire may result as wrappings ignite suddenly and burn intensely.





### Holiday Home Safety Tips Continued



#### Toys and Ornaments

- Purchase appropriate toys for the appropriate age. Some toys designed for older children might be dangerous for younger children.
- Electric toys should be UL/FM approved.
- Toys with sharp points, sharp edges, strings, cords, and parts small enough to be swallowed should not be given to small children.
- Place older ornaments and decorations that might be painted with lead paint out of the reach of small children and pets

#### Children and Pets

- Poinsettias are known to be poisonous to humans and animals, so keep them well out of reach, or avoid having them.
- Keep decorations at least 6 inches above the child's reach.
- Avoid using tinsel. It can fall on the floor and a curious child or pet may eat it. This can cause anything from mild distress to death.
- Keep any ribbons on gifts and tree ornaments shorter than 7 inches. A child could wrap a longer strand of ribbon around their neck and choke.
- Avoid mittens with strings for children. The string can get tangled around the child's neck and cause them to choke. It is easier to replace a mitten than a child.
- Watch children and pets around space heaters or the fireplace. Do not leave a child or pet unattended.
- Store scissors and any sharp objects that you use to wrap presents out of your child's reach.
- Inspect wrapped gifts for small decorations, such as candy canes, gingerbread men, and mistletoe berries, all of which are choking hazards.



#### Security

- Use your home burglar alarm system.
- If you plan to travel for the holidays, don't discuss your plans with strangers.
- Have a trusted friend or neighbor to keep an eye on your home.



# Build a Winter Emergency Kit for Your Car

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## Building a Winter Emergency Kit for Your Car

We've all seen the TV news shots, usually taken from a helicopter, of a miles-long line of forlorn cars and trucks stuck on a snow-clogged highway where they've been sitting for hours and likely will be sitting for hours more. If you're in that mess, just about the only thing you can do is wait.



But what if you had been driving on a less well-traveled road on your way to visit friends who live in the back of beyond. A sudden, massive snowfall begins, visibility drops to just a few feet, and, because you are not completely familiar with the road, you drift off the pavement and slide into the ditch. Now what? You haven't seen another car for an hour and even though you have a cell phone, you're not getting any bars.

It's pretty unlikely that you will be able to get yourself out of the ditch without help. You may have to wait a long time for help to arrive — even if your cell phone does work and you can reach the people you were on your way to see who ask you where you are so they can send a tow truck. Besides, do you really know where you are?

The best advice: be prepared. It is easy and relatively inexpensive to put together an emergency travel kit that includes enough stuff to keep you warm and, in the best case, get you out of the mess you find yourself in.

Some of the items in our suggested kit could be kept in your vehicle year-round and others are specifically intended for winter driving. (These items are **NOT** in order of precedence)

**1. Cell Phone Charger.** Cold weather drains any battery much more quickly than more moderate temperatures. There are even hand-crank models available for those times when your car's battery is dead.

**2. Ice Scraper and Snow Brush.** Obvious, no?

**3. Blankets.** If the car is not running, there will be no heat. Those inexpensive, heat-reflecting "Space Blankets" are helpful, but a heavy wool blanket or sleeping bag for every occupant is better.





# Build a Winter Emergency Kit for Your Car

## Building a Winter Emergency Kit for Your Car (Continued)

**4. Folding Shovel.** You might be able to dig yourself out of the ditch. It's worth a try and at least the work will keep you warm.



**5. Extra Clothing.** A rule of thumb: enough extra clothing for each person to keep them warm for at least an hour outside the car.

**6. Flashlight.** A good flashlight with good batteries (and perhaps some spares). A headlamp leaves your hands free to shovel or change a tire, so that might be a better option. There are even hand-crank flashlight/radio combinations available. Don't rely on the kind that plug into the vehicle's 12-volt outlet — if the car battery is dead, so is the flashlight.



**7. Sand.** To add some traction at the drive wheels after you've dug them out with the shovel.

**8. First Aid Kit.** Basic stuff like bandages, antiseptic cream, pain relievers, and antacids. Also any routine medication for anyone in the car.

**9. Tow Strap or Chain.** Just in case someone should drive by in a big 4x4 and offer to pull you out of the fix you're in, but he doesn't have a tow strap. Also make sure you know where to attach the strap so you don't pull the bumper off your car.



**10. Food and Water.** No need for a picnic lunch here, but some bottles of water (1 gallon per person recommended) and some dried food or energy bars could keep everyone in a little better mood.

Among the other things you should keep in the car at all times are jumper cables; a good spare tire and all the parts to your jack; a tool kit in case someone who knows how to fix a car stops and offers to help; flares or other signaling devices; and a collapsible fuel container for those awkward times that you have walked to a gas station only to find out they don't have a gas can for you to borrow.





## Be Prepared for Power Outages

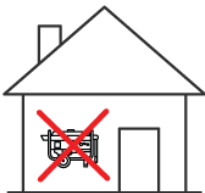


Remember that Power Outage's often occurs after natural disasters and could persist for many days.

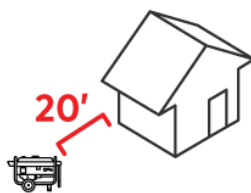


Never run a **generator** in an enclosed space or indoors.

Most **generator**-related injuries and deaths involve CO poisoning from **generators** used **indoors** or in partially enclosed spaces. That includes the basement or garage, spaces that can capture deadly levels of carbon monoxide



Never run it in an enclosed space



Always run it at least 20 feet from your home



Always direct exhaust away from your home

### Power Outage Food Safety Tips

Reduce your risk of illness and minimize food spoilage by following these guidelines.

Keep a thermometer in your refrigerator and freezer

Fridge temp. **40°**

Freezer temp. **0°**

A cooler can help store food safely if power is out more than 4 hours

Prepare by freezing containers of water to help keep food cold



When power is restored, visit [Foodsafety.gov](https://www.foodsafety.gov) for guidelines on what food to keep. But when in doubt, throw it out.

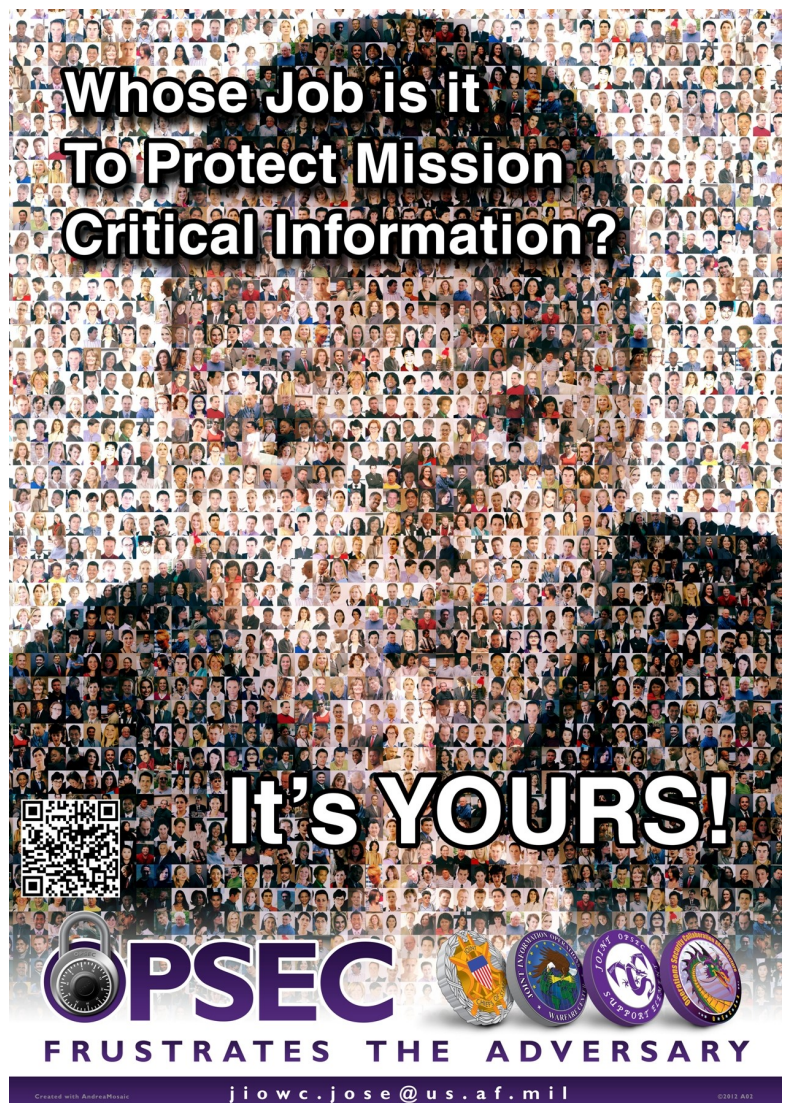




- Not just Facebook, but also Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube, Blogs, Forums and more

- Our enemies are always looking to piece together important information to see the “Big Picture”

- Practice Operations Security (OPSEC), the responsibility doesn’t just fall on Service Members, but Families too



## ARKANSAS NATIONAL GUARD EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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**Arkansas DOMS**

**EM on GKO**

**EM on RCAS**



## Give the Gift of Preparedness

Preparing for disasters is important year round and it is a big task to complete.

### Preparedness Focus: Disaster Kits

Don't give another ugly sweater or something else that will be returned. Show your loved ones you care by getting them started on their disaster supplies kit. You can pick up a basic kit and give them a list to help them add the personal things they may need like prescription medications and clothing. Make sure you remind everyone that in Arkansas we need to be 2 Weeks Ready!

**Spending extra time with the kids during the holidays?** Watch the FEMA Disaster Dodger series of videos on YouTube. These 5 videos are all seven minute or less and they feature kids talking to kids about preparing for disasters. It's a great way to have important conversations without getting too scary or technical.

