



2019 Prepare in a Year Campaign

Play it Safe – Winter Weather

The Tip for the month of March is to **Play it Safe and Prepare for Winter Weather**. 2019 has brought us more rain and snow than we have seen in years. . .and more is on the way!

Winter Weather Hazards: (Southern California Edition)

Winter storms create a higher risk of car accidents, carbon monoxide poisoning, power outages and home fires. Winter storms can bring extreme cold, rain, snow, ice, high winds, flooding and can:

- Last a few hours or several days
- Knock out heat, power, and communication services
- Place older adults, young children, and sick individuals at greater risk

Prepare for Winter Weather Hazards:

- Know your area's risk for winter storms (flooded roadways, ice, snow)
- Prepare your home to keep out the cold with insulation, caulking, and weather stripping
- Install and test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors
- **Keep working on your 72-Hour Go-Bag** (see the Shopping Sweepstakes Challenge below)
- Keep the gas tank full and create an emergency supply car kit: <https://www.ready.gov/car>

Play it Safe:

- Check on neighbors – especially older adults and those with chronic health issues
- Use battery operated candles and camping lanterns during power outages (instead of candles)
- Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning by:
 - Using generators outside only and away from windows
 - Never heat your home with a gas stovetop or oven
- Drive safely/slowly - look for and report winter road hazards (ice, flooding, erosion, potholes)
- Flooded Roadways:
 - **Turn Around, Don't Drown!** Do NOT walk, swim, bike ride or drive through flood waters
 - Six inches of moving water can knock you down
 - One foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away
 - For more information on flooding see: <https://www.ready.gov/floods>

Ideas to Consider:

Take the Shopping Sweepstakes Challenge: Emergency Preparedness Edition (\$20 at the 99 Cent Store)
<https://www.countynewscenter.com/shopping-sweepstakes-emergency-preparedness-edition/>

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