

EMERGENCY RESOURCES

Texas Winter Storm

STATEWIDE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

2-1-1 Texas: <https://www.211texas.org/>

Find food, health, housing, and other resources.

Phone: Dial 2-1-1 or 877-541-7905

Texas Division of Emergency Management:

<https://twitter.com/TDEM>

Live updates on statewide resources, disaster response, and emergency preparedness.

CrowdSource Rescue:

https://crowdsourcerescue.com/campaigns/home/223?scope_campaigns=223

Providing generators, space heaters, and food assistance

HOUSING

Warming center location map:

<https://tdem.texas.gov/warm/>

American Red Cross Shelter Locator:

<https://www.redcross.org/get-help/disaster-relief-and-recovery-services/find-an-open-shelter.html>

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):

Text SHELTER + your ZIP code to 43362 (4FEMA) to find the nearest shelter in your area (e.g., SHELTER 20472).

Mobile app: <https://www.fema.gov/about/news-multimedia/mobile-app-text-messages>

FOOD ASSISTANCE

Feeding Texas: <https://www.feedingtexas.org/get-help/>

Phone: 512-527-3613

Find local food banks near you

Feed the People Dallas:

<https://feedthepeopledallas.com/>

Click "Storm aid form" to request assistance

Houston Food Bank:

<https://www.houstonfoodbank.org/find-help/>

Phone: 832-369-9390

SHELTERING TIPS

Relocating

If your home loses power or heat for more than a few hours or if you do not have supplies to stay warm in your home overnight, consider going to a designated public shelter or warming center (see links on the left), if you can get there safely. Call 2-1-1 or local services for transportation help.

Staying in your home

If you will be sheltering at home, review the following safety tips.

Conserve warmth

- › Wear layers of warm, loose-fitting and lightweight clothing.
- › Eat and stay hydrated to warm the body.
- › Close blinds, curtains, and doors around the house. Consider keeping south-facing windows uncovered while it's sunny.
- › Stuff towels or rags under exterior doors.
- › If you have a small tent, setting it up indoors with blankets and sleeping bags can help keep you warmer while sleeping.
- › Do not use a stovetop or oven for heat.

Keep a water supply

- › Extreme cold can cause water pipes to freeze and sometimes rupture or break. Leave water taps open slightly, so they drip continuously (unless otherwise advised by local authorities). Know how to shut off your water if necessary.
- › Use bottled water.
- › Melt snow only as an emergency measure. Bring water to a rolling boil for at least one minute to kill germs, however, this will not remove any chemicals in the snow.

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

Texas Department of Transportation

Winter driving tips and preparedness:

<https://www.txdot.gov/driver/weather/winter-travel.html>

Roadside Assistance: 800-525-5555

Current road information: 800-452-9292

Highway/road conditions: <http://www.drivetexas.org/>

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RECOVERY:

Texas Ready: <https://texasready.gov/>

Learn more about making a plan for unexpected disasters.

MORE RESOURCES

Stay Safe During and After a Winter Storm

(English & Spanish)

www.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/duringstorm/indoorsafety.html

What You Need to Know When the Power Goes Out Unexpectedly

(English & Spanish)

www.cdc.gov/disasters/poweroutage/needtoknow.html

Beware of carbon monoxide poisoning

- › Place generators outdoors at least 20 feet from buildings.
- › Do not run cars in garages, even with garage door open.
- › Do not use outdoor appliances, like grills or camp stoves, indoors.

Other safety reminders

- › Avoid downed power lines.
- › Use battery-powered flashlights or lanterns rather than candles for light, if possible. If you do use candles, never leave a lit candle unattended. It can cause a fire.
- › If the power is out for a day or more, identify and throw away food that may not be safe to eat.
- › Ask your medical professional or pharmacist for guidelines on using your refrigerated medications.
- › Know the signs of hypothermia: shivering, tiredness/drowsiness, confusion, fumbling hands, memory loss, and slurred speech. Babies may have bright red skin and low energy. If you see signs, warm the center of the person's body with blankets or body heat. Get them to a warm room or shelter immediately.

Sources:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Winter Weather. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/index.html>

Ready.gov. Winter Weather. Retrieved from <https://www.ready.gov/winter-weather>

Texas Division of Emergency Management. Winter Storm Safety Reminders. Retrieved from <https://twitter.com/TDEM>

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