

PFPD February 2020 PSA

Keep extra supplies at home

Potential winter storms don't have to be a struggle if you are prepared. Keep extra batteries for flashlights in case of power outages. Stock the pantry with extra non-perishable food items and bottled water in case bad weather prevents you from leaving the house for a few days. Make sure an adequate supply of all prescription medications are in the home.

Heat Sources

Only use approved indoor heating devices. Never use heating devices that produce carbon monoxide (propane heaters) inside. Ensure a three-foot clearance area around all heating devices (space heaters, wood/pellet stoves, baseboard heaters) void of all flammable items like blankets, curtains, bedding, mattresses, and clothing. Do a maintenance check on heat sources to make certain all safety features are in place and device is working properly.

Check on neighbors

The winter months can be a challenging time for some. Checking on a neighbor can really go a long way to ensure their safety and well-being. Helping to clear snow and ice from an elderly neighbor's walkway might be the difference between a trip to get the mail and a trip to the hospital. While clearing walkways, clear snow around address signs so they can be seen from the street. Show your Pagosa pride and check on those around you this winter.

Snow Removal Around Hydrants

Having snow cleared from around fire hydrants allows quicker access to them during an emergency. Now is the time to check neighborhood fire hydrants and make sure they are easily accessible. Hydrants need 36 inches of space surrounding them free of snow. A path of at least 60 inches from the hydrant to the street should also be cleared of snow. If hydrant cannot be seen from the roadway due to high snow berms, use red spray paint on berm notating "HYDRANT" after snow directly around hydrant has been cleared.