



WINTER STORM PREP PLANNER

PREPARE BEFORE THE STORM.
STAY READY WHEN IT MATTERS.

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La Porte County Winter Storm Prep Planner

Prepare before the storm. Stay ready when it matters. Free
from La Porte Weather Now, laporteweathernow.com.

Household / Name: _____

Winter season: _____

Before-Winter Home Checklist

Use this page before winter weather arrives. Check each item and add details where needed.

- ☐ Emergency contacts gathered — Details: _____
- ☐ Heating system service completed — Date / provider: _____
- ☐ Chimney or vent inspection completed — Date / notes: _____
- ☐ Smoke and carbon monoxide alarm test completed — Notes: _____
- ☐ Backup power checked — Fuel / battery notes: _____
- ☐ Pipes insulated — Areas completed: _____
- ☐ Weather stripping checked — Doors / windows: _____
- ☐ Roof and gutter check completed — Repairs needed: _____
- ☐ Snow removal supplies ready — Location: _____
- ☐ Flashlight and battery check completed — Replacements needed: _____
- ☐ First-aid kit stocked — Items to add: _____
- ☐ Medications reviewed — Refills or special needs: _____
- ☐ Pet/livestock planning completed — Feed, water, shelter: _____

Notes

Winter Storm Watch vs. Warning Action Plan

- **Winter Storm Watch** — Heavy snow, sleet or ice is possible. Prepare, monitor updates, and be ready to act.
- **Winter Storm Warning** — Heavy snow, sleet or ice is happening or about to start. Stay off the roads and act now.

WINTER STORM WATCH: Prepare and monitor

- ☐ Monitor local weather updates and alerts. Lake-effect snow can bury Michigan City while La Porte stays dry, so check the forecast for where you're going.
- ☐ Charge phones, backup batteries, and essential devices.
- ☐ Bring in or secure outdoor items.
- ☐ Check food, water, medications, heat, and lighting supplies.
- ☐ Confirm shelter location and communication plan.
- ☐ Limit unnecessary travel as conditions worsen.

WINTER STORM WARNING: Take shelter and act now

- ☐ Move to the safest available shelter area.
- ☐ Stay away from windows and exterior doors.
- ☐ Follow official instructions and continue monitoring alerts.
- ☐ Keep emergency supplies, medications, and warm layers nearby.
- ☐ Check household members, pets, and neighbors who may need help.
- ☐ Avoid travel unless directed or necessary for immediate safety.

Write in

Local alerts: laporteweathernow.com/emergency · NOAA Weather Radio, La Porte County code 018091 · the county's RAVE alerts (Smart911)

Shelter location: _____

Key contacts: _____

Local numbers: 911 for emergencies · NIPSCO outages and downed lines 1-800-464-7726 · La Porte County Emergency Management 219-362-7210 · 211 for shelter, food or utility help

Safe Backup Heat + Carbon Monoxide Checklist

Never use a generator, grill, camp stove, or fuel-burning appliance indoors or in a garage.
Keep these devices away from doors, windows, and vents.

Safe-use reminders

- ☐ **Generators** — Operate outdoors, follow instructions, and keep well away from openings.
- ☐ **Fireplaces** — Keep the screen closed and use only approved fuel.
- ☐ **Wood stoves** — Maintain clearances and use a properly inspected flue.
- ☐ **Propane heaters** — Use only as directed and keep required ventilation clear.
- ☐ **Portable heaters** — Place on a stable surface, keep away from combustibles, and turn off when leaving.
- ☐ Test carbon monoxide alarms and replace batteries as needed.
- ☐ Keep vents, chimneys, and air intakes clear of snow and ice.
- ☐ Never block a required vent or use an appliance with damaged parts.

Emergency response

If a carbon monoxide alarm sounds or anyone feels ill, move to fresh air, call emergency services, and do not re-enter until cleared.

Fresh-air exit or meeting place: _____

Who will call for help: _____

Appliance shutoff location: _____

Emergency response notes: _____

Pantry + Water Stock List

Record a target amount, what is on hand, and what is still needed.

Item	Target amount	On hand	Need
Drinking water	_____	_____	_____
Shelf-stable food	_____	_____	_____
Infant needs	_____	_____	_____
Pet food	_____	_____	_____
Medications	_____	_____	_____
Hygiene items	_____	_____	_____
Batteries	_____	_____	_____
Other essentials	_____	_____	_____

Water calculation: Plan for at least 1 gallon per person per day for several days.

Household size: _____ Days: _____ Total target: _____ gallons

Additional items

Item: _____ Target: _____ Need: _____

Item: _____ Target: _____ Need: _____

Item: _____ Target: _____ Need: _____

Winter Car Kit Checklist

Vehicle: _____ License plate: _____

Last kit check: _____

Stranded in snow? Stay in your car. Run the engine about 10 minutes an hour, crack a window, and keep the tailpipe clear of snow.

Kit contents

- ☐ Blankets
- ☐ Warm clothing
- ☐ Boots
- ☐ Gloves
- ☐ Hats
- ☐ Ice scraper
- ☐ Shovel
- ☐ Jumper cables
- ☐ Traction material
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Batteries
- ☐ First-aid supplies
- ☐ Water
- ☐ Snacks
- ☐ Phone charger
- ☐ Emergency contact card
- ☐ Full tank or charging plan confirmed

Notes

Storm Log

Use one row for each update. Record conditions, actions, issues, and what needs follow-up.

Date Time Location	Storm conditions Power status Temperature	Actions taken Damage or issues Follow-up needed
Date: _____ Time: _____ Location: _____	Conditions: _____ Power: _____ Temperature: _____	Actions: _____ Issues: _____ Follow-up: _____
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Notes



LA PORTE COUNTY · WINTER STORM CARD

Keep this on the fridge.

EMERGENCY

911

POWER OUT OR A LINE DOWN

NIPSCO 1-800-464-7726

SMELL GAS?

Get out first, then call 911 and NIPSCO 1-800-634-3524

COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

219-362-7210

SHELTER, FOOD OR UTILITY HELP

211

NOAA WEATHER RADIO

Set it to La Porte County, code 018091



Scan for live alerts

laporteweathernow.com/emergency

A WATCH means get ready. A WARNING means act now.

Out-of-town contact: _____ Meeting place: _____

From La Porte Weather Now. Official alerts come from the National Weather Service. Numbers checked October 2026.

STRANDED IN SNOW?

Stay in your car. Run the engine about 10 minutes an hour, crack a window, and keep the tailpipe clear of snow.

911 · Power out: 1-800-464-7726
Gas leak: 1-800-634-3524
County EMA: 219-362-7210 · 211



Live alerts

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