

TOWN OF MALTA

PrepareAthon!SM
for Winter Storm Safety

BE SMART.
TAKE PART.
PREPARE.

**WINTER IS
COMING**

Sponsored by
The GLOBALFOUNDRIES/Town of Malta Foundation
Town of Malta
Emergency Preparedness Committee
Community Emergency Response Team



Are You Prepared?

Why Do You Need to Prepare?

- Disasters are unpredictable.
- Disasters happen in every community.
- Disasters affect your family, friends, and neighbors.
- You might be on your own.





Are You Prepared?

Everyone is potentially at risk during winter storms. The actual threat to you depends on your specific situation. Recent observations indicate the following:

- Related to ice and snow:
 - About 70% of deaths occur in automobiles.
 - About 25% are people caught out in the storm.
- Related to exposure to cold:
 - 50% are people over 60 years old.
 - Over 75% are males.
 - About 20% occur in the home.





Are You Prepared?

Know Your Local Emergency Management System

- Town of Malta Government
- Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
- Emergency Preparedness Committee
- **Community Emergency Response Team**



Are You Prepared?

- The Town and its various departments are open during all normal business hours, including periods of inclement weather.
- If the Town declares an emergency, the Community Center can be opened to serve as the following type(s) of shelter:
 - An emergency shelter is a place to live temporarily when you cannot live in your residence.
 - A post-disaster emergency shelter is provided in response to assist after an incident.
 - A warming center is open for people who decline to stay over-night but stop in to warm up as they may not have power or adequate heat.



Are You Prepared?

Emergency Preparedness Committee

- The mission of the Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC) is to assist in preventing, responding to, and recovering from emergencies and disasters.
- The EPC provides a mechanism for community involvement through public education and public awareness.





Are You Prepared?

Emergency Preparedness Committee – Members

- Town Emergency Management Coordinator
- Town Highway Superintendent
- Town Parks & Recreation Director
- Town Board Liaison
- NYS Police and Saratoga County Sheriff's Dept.
- Malta Fire
- Malta-Stillwater EMS
- Malta CERT
- Chango Elementary
- GlobalFoundries, State Farm, Stewarts, NYSERDA, etc.



Are You Prepared?

Community Emergency Response Team

- The mission of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is to assist in preventing, mitigating, responding to, and recovering from emergencies and disasters.
- The CERT Team is made up of volunteers who commit to lengthy training to provide assistance in case of an emergency.



Are You Prepared?

Understanding the Risk

Know the terms used by weather forecasters:

- Freezing Rain
- Sleet
- Winter Storm Watch
- Winter Storm Warning
- Blizzard Warning
- Frost/Freeze Warning



In other news, today:



2 feet of snow fell this morning...



Are You Prepared?

- Prepare a disaster supply kit.
- Be aware of the types of disasters that are likely to affect you.
- Have a NOAA weather radio on hand.
 - These special radios provide one of the earliest warnings of weather and other emergencies and can be programmed to alert you of hazards specific to your area www.nws.noaa.gov.



Are You Prepared?

The TOP 20

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Fire | 11. Winter Storm (Severe) |
| 2. Ice Storm | 12. Radiological (In-Transit) |
| 3. HAZMAT | 13. Terrorism |
| 4. Transportation Accident | 14. Explosion |
| 5. Structural Accident | 15. Oil Spill |
| 6. Tornado | 16. Epidemic |
| 7. Wildfire | 17. Extreme Temperatures |
| 8. Severe Storm | 18. Earthquake |
| 9. Utility Failure | 19. Water Supply Contamination |
| 10. Flood | 20. Radiological (Fixed Site) |



Are You Prepared?

Disaster Supply Kit

- Three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Three-day supply of water
- Portable, battery-powered radio
- Flashlight
- Cash and coins
- Keep it fresh – check and replace supplies throughout the year





Are You Prepared?

To get you started, tonight we are giving a free “Go-Bag” which is stocked with many of the general items you will need on an immediate basis.

You will need to also consider what personal items relevant to you and your family’s needs.

Do a Google search on **“how to stock an emergency kit”** for ideas.



Are You Prepared?

Family Communication Plan

- Families can make emergencies less stressful by preparing in advance and working together as a team.
- Your family may not be together when disaster strikes.
- You should make a plan for:
 - How you will contact each other
 - What special steps you will take in different types of emergency situations







Are You Prepared?

How to Develop a Family Emergency Plan

- Meet with your family and discuss why you need to plan and prepare.
- Discuss the types of disasters that are most likely to happen. Explain what to do in each case.
- Select emergency meeting places:
 - One outside the home for disasters centered around home
 - One outside the neighborhood in case you cannot return home
 - Ask an out-of-town or out-of-state friend or relative to be the family point of contact



Are You Prepared?

Family Communication Plan

- Complete an emergency contact card
 - Each family member should keep these cards with them at all times.
- Choose an emergency contact
 - An out-of-town friend or relative might be easier to reach in an emergency.
- Make sure all your family members know how to text.
 - Text messages may still go through when phone lines are busy.
- Inquire about emergency plans at places where your family spends time: work, daycare, and school.



Are You Prepared?

Family Communication Plan

- Your emergency planning should address:
 - Aiding family members and neighbors with access and functional needs
 - Care of pets
 - Safely shutting off utilities





Are You Prepared?

Neighbors, Seniors, and Special Needs

- Have a conversation with them beforehand
 - Do they live alone?
 - Do they drive?
 - Do they have any physical, medical, thinking, or learning limitations?
 - Do they have a decreased sense of hearing or vision?
 - Are they reliant upon any medical equipment?
 - Are they reliant on a caregiver?



Are You Prepared?

Hypothermia

- Occurs when the entire body cools because its ability to keep warm fails
- The person will die if not given care
- Can happen on a cold blistery day or over exposure to cold on a nice day



Are You Prepared?

Symptoms of Hypothermia

- Uncontrollable shivering
- Memory loss
- Disorientation
- Incoherence
- Slurred speech
- Drowsiness
- Apparent exhaustion





Are You Prepared?

If Symptoms of Hypothermia are Detected

- Get the victim to a warm location.
- Remove wet clothing.
- Put the person in dry clothing and wrap their entire body in a blanket.
- Warm the center of the body first.
- If the person is alert give warm, non-alcoholic, or non-caffeinated beverages.
- Get medical help as soon as possible!



Are You Prepared?

Make a Pet Emergency Plan

- ID your pet and include a current photo
- Make a pet emergency kit:
 - Pet food
 - Bottled water
 - Medications
 - Veterinary records
 - Cat litter/pan
 - Manual can opener
 - First aid kit and other supplies





Are You Prepared?

Make a Pet Emergency Plan

- Identify shelters
- Have a secure pet carrier, leash/harness
- Have copies of your pet's medical records in the carrier
- If you are unable to return to your home right away, you may need to board your pet
 - Research some boarding facilities outside the area in case local facilities are closed.





Are You Prepared?

Winter Storm Preparedness

- Limit travel during and immediately after snowstorms.
- Keep an emergency kit in your car in case you are stranded in a snow storm.
- Allow enough extra time to drive for the conditions.
- Inspect and replace any defective/worn equipment on your vehicle.
- Allow adequate time to warm and clear **all** snow off of your vehicle.







Are You Prepared?

Winter Storm Preparedness

- Do not become overconfident because your vehicle is 4-wheel drive or All-wheel drive.
- Keep access to your residence clear and open for emergency personnel.
- Use extra caution driving through residential areas, be mindful of children playing in snow and on or around snowbanks that may not be visible.
- Do not park your vehicle in the roadway; it inhibits snow removal and may result in it being towed.







Are You Prepared?

Winter Storm Preparedness

- Do not throw ice and snow back in the roadway.
 - You may cause an injury to family, friends, or neighbors.
- Prepare/plan in advance with shovels, snow blowers, gas, salt/sand.
 - Residents can pick up salt/sand mix located toward the back of the town court parking area.
- Help clear driveways of neighboring seniors or others with special needs.





Are You Prepared?

Plan Ahead

- Winterize your house, barn, shed, or any other structure that may provide shelter
- Insulate pipes
- Keep fire extinguishers on hand
- Check smoke detectors



Are You Prepared?

Plan Ahead

- Know how to shut off water valves in case a pipe bursts or you have to leave to shelter.
- Know ahead of time what you should do to help elderly or disabled friends, neighbors, or employees.
- Hire a contractor to check the structural ability of the roof.



Are You Prepared?

Plan for *safe* auxiliary heating

- Do not use your gas stove or oven!
- Follow manufacturer instructions for the safe use of kerosene heaters.
 - Use correct fuels!
- Follow manufacturer instructions for the safe use of generators.
 - Avoid back-feeding panel which puts utility workers at risk.

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE PROPER VENTILATION!!!



Are You Prepared?

Utility Shut-Off and Safety: Natural Gas

- Natural gas leaks and explosions are responsible for a significant number of fires following disasters. It is vital that all household members know how to shut off natural gas.
- Because there are different gas shut-off procedures for different gas meter configurations, it is important to contact your local gas company for any guidance on preparations and response regarding gas appliances and gas service to your home.
- When you learn the proper shut-off procedure for your meter, share the information with everyone in your household. Be sure not to actually turn off the gas when practicing the proper gas shut-off procedures.
- If you smell gas or hear a blowing or hissing noise, open a window and get everyone out quickly. Turn off the gas using the outside main valve, if you can, and call the gas company from a neighbor's home.
- Caution: If you turn off the gas for any reason, a qualified professional must turn it back on. NEVER attempt to turn the gas back on yourself.



Are You Prepared?

Utility Shut-Off and Safety: Water

- Before an emergency happens, locate the shut-off valve for the water line that enters your house and label this valve with a tag for easy identification. Make sure all household members know where it is located.
- Make sure this valve can be completely shut off. Your valve may be rusted open or it may only partially close. If so, replace it.
- Cracked lines may pollute the water supply to your house. It is wise to shut off your water until you hear from authorities that it is safe for drinking.
- The effects of gravity may drain the water in your hot water heater and toilet tanks unless you trap it in your house by shutting off the main house valve.
 - This is not the street valve in the cement box at the curb – the street valve is extremely difficult to turn and requires a special tool.



Are You Prepared?

Utility Shut-Off and Safety: Electricity

- Electrical sparks have the potential of igniting natural gas if it is leaking.
- Teach all responsible household members where and how to shut off the electricity.
- Locate the electrical circuit box.
 - Always shut off all the individual circuits before shutting off the main circuit.



Are You Prepared?

House Fires

- Fires occur more frequently in the winter because of the lack of proper safety precautions when using alternate heating sources.
 - Unattended fires
 - Disposing of ashes too soon
 - Improperly placed space heaters

Never Burn Charcoal Inside!



Are You Prepared?

House Fires

- Fire during winter storms present a great danger because:
 - Water supplies may freeze
 - Firefighters may not be able to get close access to your home
 - Hydrants may be snowed in





Are You Prepared?

Malta Ridge
Volunteer Fire Dept.



Round Lake Fire Dept.





Are You Prepared?

MALTA-STILLWATER Emergency Medical Services

Malta-Stillwater EMS strives to provide top-quality emergency medical services to the towns of Malta and Stillwater. It is always our goal to provide an agency based in knowledge, hard work, and commitment to our patients, our staff, and their families.





Are You Prepared?

MALTA-STILLWATER Emergency Medical Services

- Are you interested in strengthening your EMT skills, becoming a Paramedic, or want to get more involved in your community?

JOIN US!

- Malta Stillwater EMS is comprised of career staff and volunteers for a growing community and expanding team! We are looking for volunteers like YOU, to become part of our squad. What do we do? **EVERYTHING** *and more.*



Are You Prepared?

CERT Members – What We Are *Not*

- We are NOT First Responders.
- We are NOT put on the “Front Lines”.
- We are NOT put in Danger.





Are You Prepared?

CERT Members – What We Are

- We are Volunteers.
- We are Citizens who want to give something back.
- We are there to help.
- We need more Volunteers!



WE WANT YOU!



Are You Prepared?

How to Join CERT

- Take the Course!
 - 21-hour course spread out over 7 weeks
 - Next class beginning this Fall
- Talk to us and sign up.



Are You Prepared?

Our Thanks to the

**GLOBALFOUNDRIES/Town of Malta
Foundation**



GLOBALFOUNDRIES /Town of Malta Foundation



Are You Prepared?

Questions???

One more thing to consider:

**The distance from Albany, NY
to Miami Beach, FL is:
1,426.3 miles!!!**

