

Ice storm

ACTION CHECKLIST

Avoid travel on icy roads and keep away from ice-laden trees and power lines. Prepare for a long outage using safe heat and battery lights. Stay indoors until conditions improve unless your shelter is unsafe.

[] Postpone travel

Even thin ice can make roads and sidewalks unsafe.

[] Avoid falling hazards

Stay clear of branches, wires and roofs shedding ice.

[] Use safe backup heat

Keep combustion equipment outdoors and maintain working CO alarms.

[] Check vulnerable people

Plan safe transport to a warm location if heat or essential medical power fails.

WATCH FOR

Never touch or approach a fallen wire, even if it appears inactive.

IF HELP IS UNAVAILABLE

Preserve heat in a dry room, keep lights battery powered and avoid unnecessary travel. If you must move because of dangerous cold, do it before people become weak and use a route you know is passable; a car is not reliable shelter if exhaust or roads are blocked.

Updated 2026-10-02 | Civilian educational guidance. Seek qualified help when reachable and safe; do not delay immediate protective action.

Full guide: <https://ospreyzero.com/emergencies/ice-storm/>

Ice storm · official guidance