



# Plumas County Office of Emergency Services

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Rain, Wind, and Snow Expected to Impact Plumas County

**Plumas County, CA** — The National Weather Service is advising residents and visitors to prepare for a period of rain, strong winds, and potentially snowfall (above 5500') that will affect Plumas County. The approaching weather system is anticipated to be active through Christmas and may create hazardous travel conditions, power outages, and localized flooding.

Forecasts indicate periods of moderate to heavy rain in lower elevations, while colder temperatures will bring snow to higher terrain. Gusty winds may lead to downed trees and power lines, increasing the potential for road closures and service disruptions.

Residents are encouraged to take the following precautions:

### Be Aware of the Forecast

The National Weather Service will issue Winter Storm Watches & Warnings for severe weather.

- Winter Storm Watches mean hazardous weather may take place within 48 hours. **BE PREPARED.**
- Winter Storm Warnings mean hazardous weather is occurring or imminent. **TAKE ACTION.**

Tune into local media and follow National Weather Service's Reno and Sacramento social media accounts for detailed forecasts.

### Plan for Medical Devices

If you use life-sustaining medical devices, it's time to charge those backup batteries and have a plan for power outages.

### Keep Warm

If you are without a heat source when the power is out, keep sleeping bags, blankets, jackets, gloves, and hats on hand. If you have a generator that you rely on for heat, make sure you have an adequate supply of fuel. Have a plan in place for where you will go if your home becomes too cold. Visit a warming center or stay with a friend or family.

### Maintain Light

Plan ahead by stocking up on additional light sources and batteries. Keep candles, flashlights, headlamps, and lanterns easily accessible.

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## **Eat & Hydrate**

Stock up on easy to prepare, SHELF STABLE foods and revisit your camping supplies. A camp stove can help you stay well-fed and comfortable during a long storm without power. Simple canned and dehydrated meals are excellent options for non-perishables. Keep fresh food in a cooler chilled with ice blocks or snow. Ensure you have enough water for drinking and cleaning.

## **Fuel & Stock Up**

Charging your vehicle or getting to the gas station in a storm may be impossible. Fuel up in the days leading up to the storm to ensure you can travel when roads clear. Stock up on extra fuel for tools like your generator, snow blower, and chainsaw. Ensure you have a snow shovel to keep walkways and driveways clear. Keep a snowbrush and ice scraper in your vehicle to clear your windshield.

## **Travel Safely**

Make sure to bring what you need to survive if you get stuck, such as a first aid kit, emergency blankets, food, water, a shovel, tow straps, and gear to stay warm. Make sure your vehicle can handle the conditions; 4-wheel or all-wheel drive vehicles may be required in icy, snowy conditions. Always carry chains.

## **Stay Connected**

Without power, communication may be most effective using simpler forms of technology like text messaging. Use a battery powered radio tuned to local stations to stay informed of conditions. Charge battery banks to keep devices, like cell phones and tablets, operable. Conserve power by placing your devices in airplane mode when not in use. Look out for one another. Check on neighbors, family, and friends.

## **Line Up Necessities**

Head into the storm with a full propane tank and use fuel sparingly. Heavy storm conditions delay deliveries. Line up snowplowing services in advance to ensure private driveways and roads remain accessible.

Plumas County emergency services are actively monitoring conditions and are prepared to respond as needed. Community members are urged to remain cautious and to report hazardous conditions to local authorities.

For the latest updates, visit <https://plumascounty.us/3014/Emergency-Alerts-and-Resources> or follow Plumas County Office of Emergency Services on Facebook.###

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