



**CITY OF CLEVELAND**  
Mayor Frank G. Jackson

**From: Office of the Mayor**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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## **City of Cleveland Reminds Residents of Strong Winter Preparedness Plan**

*Additional resources are as a result of Issue 32*

**CLEVELAND**— City of Cleveland officials today reminded residents and commuters of the strong measures in place to combat the forecasted winter storm. A portion of the city's snow removal fleet was on display and directors from Public Utilities, Public Works, Public Safety and Port Control provided insights on the city's strategic approach. Download today's press conference video [here](#).

"The City of Cleveland is prepared to provide quality services to our residents year-round, including the winter season," said Mayor Frank G. Jackson. "Thanks to Issue 32, we have invested in more resources to make sure the enhanced service delivery reaches every resident in a timely and efficient manner during this winter's snow events."

Following the press conference, the Division of Streets provided a guided tour and demonstration of the newly installed Automated Vehicle Locator system (AVL). The AVL system allows the City to track its fleets and be more efficient in its snow removal operations.

The City's [geographic information system](#) (GIS) allows users to see the streets affected by the snow emergency parking bans.

Thanks to the citizens of Cleveland who helped pass Issue 32, the Department of Public Works hired an additional 42 personnel in 2017 who will function as snow plow drivers, radio operators, and construction equipment operators.

Winter weather brings many challenges for citizens and in order to stay abreast of emergencies during this winter season, the City encourages everyone to sign up for CodeRED, its easy-to-use app. Download or sign up online via the [link](#).

To see the lists of equipment, personnel, and material available to Public Works during the 2018 winter season click on the [link](#).

The City of Cleveland is also reminding residents of precautionary measures to ensure safety this winter season:

**Check Emergency Supply Kits.** Do you have extra winter clothes, sufficient food and water, extra batteries, flashlights, and a battery or hand-crank radio? What about medications, toys for

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the kids, pet food, and copies of important information such as numbers for your local utilities? While checking on your own supplies, take some time to check on your neighbors and the elderly. Ensure that all smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors in your home are working properly.

**Take personal precautions and check on the vulnerable.** The cold weather may put a strain on your heart; follow your doctor's advice about shoveling snow or other strenuous work. Many injuries result from falls on ice-covered surfaces; make sure to keep steps and walkways clean and free of ice. Infants and the elderly are most at risk for cold-related illness; keep in touch with elderly or at-risk neighbors or relatives, making sure they are safe and that their homes are adequately heated.

**Dress appropriately in the cold.** Almost all cases of hypothermia and frostbite are preventable. If you must be outside, dress appropriately: wear loose fitting layers to provide overall body warmth, a hat, scarf, mittens and boots will provide additional protection from the elements. Cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs. Keep dry, change wet clothing frequently to prevent a loss of body heat. If you suspect hypothermia or frostbite, call 911 immediately; if possible, protect the person from further exposure to the cold, remove any wet clothing and warm without rubbing the affected areas.

**Pay attention to snow parking bans.** If snow accumulation exceeds 2 inches or more, a snow emergency parking ban may be enacted. The ban allows plows sufficient time to remove snow and ice and move through city streets at a decent pace. When a snow ban is in effect, stopping, standing, and parking of vehicles will be restricted and prohibited on City streets with posted red and white signs. Anyone who fails to comply will be ticketed and towed.

**Don't Block the Box.** Ensure you can move all the way through an intersection before the traffic signal changes. Stopping in the middle of an intersection prohibits oncoming vehicles from passing through that intersection and can result in grid lock. In addition, be aware of traffic control officers who may be outside on the street directing traffic.

**Bring pets/companion animals inside during winter weather.** Move other animals or livestock to sheltered areas with non-frozen drinking water. Remember to prepare for your animals.

### **About the City of Cleveland**

The City of Cleveland is committed to improving the quality of life of its residents by strengthening neighborhoods, delivering superior services, embracing diversity and making Cleveland a desirable, safe city in which to live, work, play and do business. For more information on the City of Cleveland, visit online at [www.city.cleveland.oh.us](http://www.city.cleveland.oh.us) , Twitter at [@cityofcleveland](https://twitter.com/cityofcleveland) or Facebook at [www.facebook.com/cityofcleveland](https://www.facebook.com/cityofcleveland).