



City of Madison Fire Department

News Release

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Protect Your Home & Yourself From Winter Flooding

The City of Madison Fire Department urges residents to be safe this weekend as temperatures rise and the rain falls. Officials expect standing water and localized flooding due to rain and melting snow.

Some things you can do to prevent problems and injuries include:

- Avoid walking through, driving through or playing in standing water.
- Clear snow and ice from around your house. This will help water flow away from your home's foundation.
- If you are clearing snow or ice from a roof, use a roof rake if possible. If using a ladder, be sure to place it on a safe surface and have someone hold the ladder.
- Clear snow and ice from storm drain inlets so water can drain from the street.
- Remove any snow or ice within 5 feet of the fire hydrant nearest to your home.
- If you have a sump pump, know how it operates and be sure it works.
- Know how to turn off the power in your home and only do so if it can be done safely.
- Watch your footing. The rain will make snow packed and ice covered surfaces very slippery.
- Do not step into any water if you believe power lines or electrical equipment may be in contact with the water.
- Do not use any appliances or electrical equipment that is wet or was damaged by water.

It is okay to call 9-1-1 for the following situations:

- Downed wires or cables.
- If flooding in the home is threatening your electrical service.
- If someone is in danger because of flooding conditions.
- Any fire, injury, medical or other emergency.

The City of Madison Fire Department is not equipped to remove water from buildings or basements. If you need help removing water from your home, please check with your insurance agent or look in the yellow pages for companies listed in the "Fire and Water Damage Restoration" section.

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