



LET'S TALK FIRE SAFETY

Valdosta Fire Department

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Winter Storms

Winter Storm Facts:

The majority of the U.S. is at risk for severe weather, which can cause dangerous and sometimes life-threatening conditions.

There are more home fires in winter than in any other season. Half of all home heating fires happen in December, January and February

Icing, sleet, extreme cold, hurricane force winds, torrential rains, flooding, and lightning are as real a threat during the winter months in Valdosta as they are any other time of year.

One of the main concerns is that winter weather can knock out heat, power, and communication, sometimes for days at a time.

Hypothermia is a real threat to people who do not dress appropriately for the weather. Dressing in layers is preferable.

Safety Tips:

- Prepare an emergency supplies kit for both family members and pets ahead of time to take with you.
- Be ready in case the power goes out. Have flashlights on hand. Also have battery-powered lighting and fresh batteries. Never use candles.



- Always assume fallen power lines are energized. Stay away from the area and report any downed lines to authorities immediately.
- Make sure you dress warmly and have extra blankets!

- Sprinkling sand on sidewalks and walkways make the less slippery.

Always Remember:

- Stay aware of winter weather. Listen to the television or radio for updates. Watch for bulletins online.
- Check on neighbors and others who may need help.
- Turn portable heaters off when you leave the room as well as when you go to bed.
- Test your smoke alarms monthly. If you have an attached garage, a fireplace or your house is heated using gas, you should have a carbon monoxide detector in your home.

National Fire Protection Association

<https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/By-topic/Emergency-Preparedness/Natural-disasters/Severe-storms>

The fire is the main comfort of the camp, whether in summer or winter, and is about as ample at one season as at another. It is as well for cheerfulness as for warmth and dryness. -

Henry David Thoreau

Freezing Rain is rain that freezes when it hits the ground, creating a layer of ice on roads, walkways, trees, and power lines. Whereas sleet is rain that turns to ice before reaching the ground.

Someone with hypothermia usually isn't aware of his or her condition because the symptoms often begin gradually. Also, the confused thinking associated with hypothermia prevents self-awareness. The confused thinking can also lead to risk-taking behavior.

Have a fire safety question you would like for the Fire Department to answer? Please contact Ms. Tangela Rowe at 229-333-1835 or you can send an email to:

valdostafire@valdostacity.com

Solve the Fire Wuzzles

WUZZLES are word puzzles consisting of combinations of words, letters, figures or symbols positioned to create disguised words, phrases, names, places, sayings, etc.

For example, the solution to NOON GOOD is "Good afternoon" and LINE READ LINE is "Read between the lines."

Hand Hand Go Go Man

Answers to last month's wuzzles are tongue in cheek and scot free.

Fire Safety Quiz

1. Wearing layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing will keep you warmer than one bulky sweater.
 - A. True
 - B. False
 - C.
2. Normal body temperature is around 98.6 F (37 C). Hypothermia occurs as your body temperature falls below __.
 - A. 83F
 - B. 99F
 - C. 95F
 - D. 89F

Answers to last month's quiz are 1. B. & 2. D.



Freddie D. Broome, Fire Chief