



## PREPARATION CHECKLIST FOR WINTER FIRE & EMS OPS



### APPARATUS

- Ensure tire treads and sidewalls are in good condition. Verify proper operation of automatic chains.
- Check the antifreeze level and concentration with a hydrometer.
- Verify good operation of heater, defroster, windshield wipers and refill washer fluid.
- Stock vehicles with winter supplies; hand warmers, sand, ice scraper, extra gloves, and shovel.

### STATION

- Check that windows and passage doors close tightly.
- Verify bay doors close tightly
- Have station heating equipment checked and serviced.
- Ensure emergency generator is functioning properly & fuel tank is full.
- Ready snow blower or plow. Inventory snow shovels and salt or sand.

### PERSONNEL

- Remind firefighters & EMTs of best practices for dressing; layers & materials
- Remind responders about the warning signs and treatment for cold injuries.
- Remind responders to prepare their private vehicles for winter driving.

### OPERATIONS

- Contact Police, Public Works and other support agencies to verify contact information and coordinate severe winter weather plans. Consider asking for direct personal contact information for town department leaders.
- Discuss with officers the need for early mutual aid and rehab for operations. The demands of winter firefighting require additional manpower.
- Remind drivers of driving and pumping best practices during winter operations.