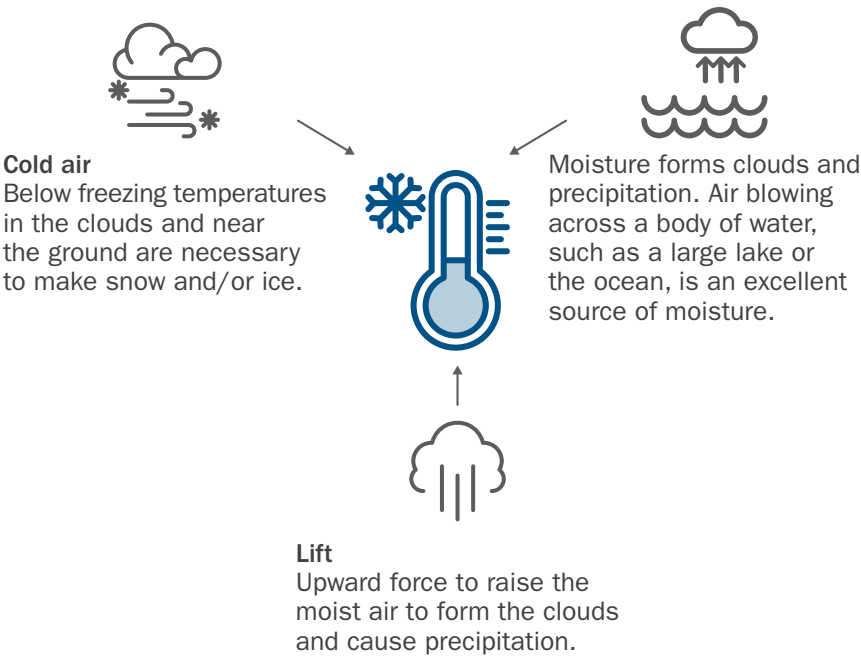


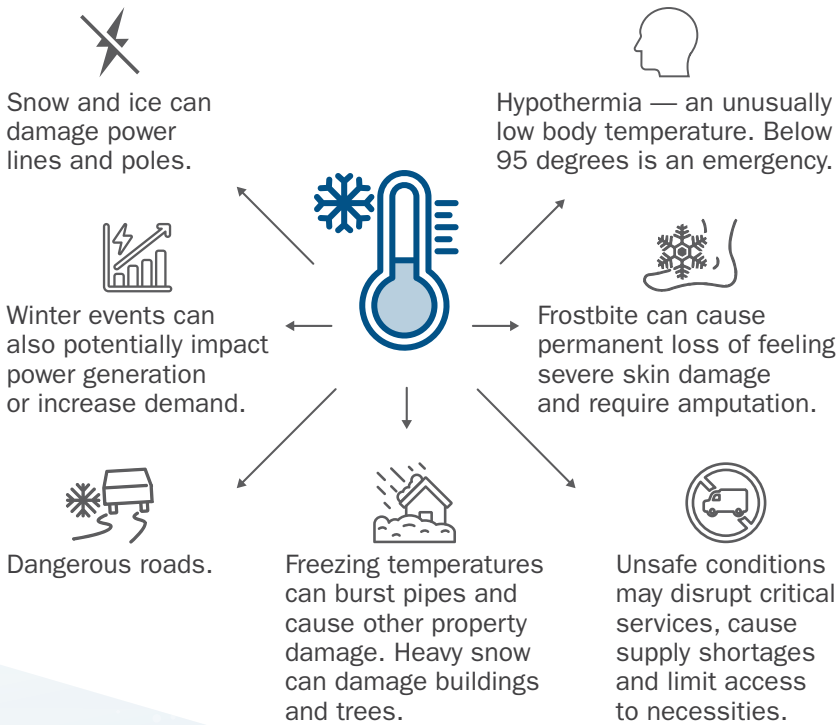
WINTER STORMS

A winter storm is an event in which the main types of precipitation are snow, sleet or freezing rain. Winter storms vary and their traits are determined by the amount, extent and duration of snow or ice, air temperature and wind.

CAUSES



IMPACTS



How I Can Reduce My Risk

Be prepared for the day-of storm impacts:

- Stay off roads. Remain indoors and warmly dressed.
- Gather essential supplies and create an emergency car kit.
- Sign up to receive emergency notifications.
- Check on friends, family and neighbors.

Invest in improvements and maintain property to reduce winter storm hazards:

- Winterize your home by sealing doors and windows, insulating exposed pipes, insulating your attic, and cleaning out gutters.
- Repair roof leaks to keep out water and reduce ice damage.
- Cut tree branches that could fall on your home.
- Buy a whole-house or portable generator
NOTE: only use generators outdoors and maintain your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.



How Local Officials Can Reduce My Risk

- Implement building codes that require insulation and other features that limit risks to structures such as burst pipes and roof damage.
- Mandate tree trimming and move vulnerable equipment underground to reduce power outage risks.
- Curtail energy use in non-essential buildings to reduce power outage risks for the surrounding community.
- Provide preparedness tips and warning information on severe winter storms.

Additional Resources

- Ready.gov
www.ready.gov/winter-weather
- NOAA
www.weather.gov/wrn/winter_safety
- Contact your local or state emergency management department for more information about winter storm safety.