

Community Alerts

Provided by Crime Awareness Unit of the DeKalb Police Department

6 January 2010

“Winter Weather – Freezing Temperatures”

With the Winter advisories being issued, lets all make sure we consider our safety when dealing with the dropping temperatures.

When Heating the Home:

- Use heating equipment properly
 - Space Heaters:
 - Avoid using older space heaters with questionable cords
 - Avoid attaching extension cords, use surge protectors
 - Keep away from flammable items
 - Fireplaces:
 - Only burn seasoned hardwood like oak, ash or maple
 - Do not burn trash, cardboard or other unmentioned wood items
 - Have a professional chimney inspection/sweep performed annually



➤ (make sure small children do not play or sleep near heating equipment)

Provided tips and information: http://www.homesafetycouncil.org/SafetyGuide/sg_heating_w001.asp

When Outside of the Home:

- Do Not leave your car idling unattended to warm up
- Dress in layers
- Avoid long periods of time in the freezing weather
 - If using mass transportation (bus, taxi, etc.), verify schedules before leaving

Check on elderly and/or disabled relatives regularly

- Verify their necessities (food, medications, etc.) are available to them
- Verify there is safe and adequate heating inside their home
- Verify they have access to contacting 911 emergency services
- Assist with their travel routines to avoid exposure to freezing temperatures

Additional Safety Tips:

- Install Carbon Monoxide detectors in the home
- Test smoke detectors and/or replaced old batteries
- Avoid using an oven or range to heat the home
- Never use gas or charcoal grills inside the home or garage
- Portable electric generators must only be used outside

*** Remember if you don't inform the Police,
the Police don't know what's happening in your neighborhood. ***

