

WINTER PREPAREDNESS

The following are items to keep in mind as winter approaches. They are just a few of the many steps that can be taken to provide a problem-free shift or season.

During winter, it is necessary to wear clothing appropriate for weather conditions and job demands. It is best to wear or have available multiple layers of clothing to be added or removed as necessary. Other apparel supplies needed include INDOT provided headwear, a safety vest, safety boots and gloves.

A well-stocked first-aid kit and possibly a small personal tool kit should be secured in the cab or bed of the truck. Don't forget a thermos and lunch box, particularly for those long rural routes requiring several hours away from any convenient pit stop. Every truck cab should be equipped with a fire extinguisher. Checking the pressure status of the extinguisher as a routine checklist item could prevent an unsafe situation.

It may be helpful to carry a list of contacts (radio call numbers with names), phone numbers of surrounding units and the Subdistrict, and a unit member phone list.

Using common sense for winter preparedness will allow for emergency situations to be handled in a calm, collected manner. Pre-planning and thinking ahead to possible season scenarios will provide a safe working environment for co-workers and the public.