



Winter Weather Preparations

How Hillsborough Prepares and How You Can Too

Below is information on how the town prepares for winter weather and how you can too.

In the event of deteriorating weather conditions, the community is advised:

- To stay off roads, sidewalks and town trails. Doing otherwise is risky, creates more emergency work, and slows efforts to keep roadways cleared for emergency response.
- To not park vehicles on streets as this affects plowing.
- To not pass vehicles plowing snow or spreading salt or brine. Doing otherwise could cause bodily injury or damage to a vehicle's paint.
- That sidewalks and roads may continue to have snow and ice after the event and can be hazardous, particularly in shaded areas.

Town preparations

In advance of predicted winter weather, Hillsborough crews prepare equipment and resources, including:

- Outfitting trucks with plows and tire chains.
- Ensuring vehicles and generators are fully fueled.
- Ensuring any equipment that may be needed is ready to go.

Community preparations

Prepare family and property — The community is encouraged to prepare for winter weather. Basic readiness tips include having adequate supplies of food and water to last several days and putting together a disaster supply kit, including a flashlight, batteries, cash, first aid supplies and copies of critical documents.

Low temperatures can bring water line breaks and power outages due to high electrical demand. The town has tips for personal protection and avoiding frozen pipes. Preparation information is available via:

- [Ready Hillsborough](#) page of the town's website, which includes cold weather resources.
- [Emergency Services](#) section of Orange County's website.
- [Winter Safety](#) section of the National Weather Service website.
- [ReadyNC](#) website.

Stay informed — The community is encouraged to stay informed and to share information with neighbors. Use the Town of Hillsborough's various communication channels:

- Website: www.hillsboroughnc.gov
- Facebook: [@HillsboroughGov](https://www.facebook.com/HillsboroughGov)
- Nextdoor: www.nextdoor.com/pages/town-of-hillsborough-2
- Twitter: [@HillsboroughGov](https://twitter.com/HillsboroughGov)

- News releases: [Email Subscriptions](#) webpage to receive town news via email.

Subscribe to the public alert and warning system [OC Alerts](#), which is used to share emergency notifications such as the opening of shelters. When selecting notification preferences, Hillsborough water customers should subscribe to notifications from the Town of Hillsborough. OC Alerts is a partnership of the governments in Orange County and Orange Water and Sewer Authority. OWASA provides water service to the Carrboro and Chapel Hill community.

Determine service providers — About 31,000 people have a Hillsborough mailing address, but only about 9,700 are within the town limits. To determine who provides services to your home, check the [Jurisdiction and Service Areas](#) page of the town website.

Those who experience power and communications outages should contact their providers.

Safety reminders

- Do not use generators, camp stoves or grills inside homes or in garages attached to buildings due to the risk for carbon monoxide poisoning and fire. These should only be used outdoors, with the exhaust facing away from the home and with placement at least 10 feet away from any opening to a building that could draw air in.
- If using a generator, ensure you are only supplying power to your intended building to avoid dangers to emergency workers, damage to the generator and possible fire.
- Stay away from downed power lines and downed trees, both of which can be hazardous.
- Monitor local radio and television stations for storm and shelter updates.