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Media Release

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City of Joliet, Winter Weather Preparedness for Residents

JOLIET, IL — The City of Joliet reminds residents to educate themselves on how to remain safe during winter weather events. “We encourage Joliet residents to remember their neighbors who may require special assistance, especially the elderly.” Emergency Management Director, Greg Sebben said. “Last Winter, Joliet experienced some significant snow and severe weather events, and at this time of year, we need to remember how important it is to prepare for possible events ahead,” said Sebben. He added “it’s important to have a plan and to prepare survival kits for both the home and the vehicle, before these challenging days arrive.”

The City of Joliet offers the following tips to stay safe this winter:

For the home: Create a winter survival kit, including a cell phone, flashlight, portable radio, first aid kit, any necessary medications and a supply of food and water in case the power goes out. Keep fire extinguishers on hand and make sure your family knows how to use them. Add extra insulation to walls, attics, doors and windows. Have safe emergency heating equipment available. Try to stay indoors and if you must venture out, dress warmly. Be sure not to overexert yourself or work outside for extended periods of time.

For the vehicle: Create a winter survival kit, including a cell phone and charger, blankets, extra clothing and winter gear, jumper cables, flashlight and extra batteries, high calorie-nonperishable food and matches or a lighter. Make sure your vehicle is in good operating condition before using it in extreme cold, keep your fuel tank full, and while operating try to conserve fuel. Bring a sand bag or ice melt to improve traction if needed. Tell someone about your travel plans or proposed route. Plan the trip carefully, if extreme cold, snowy or icy conditions exceed your ability or your vehicles ability, do not travel. If you must, be cautious. Never leave the motor running in a vehicle parked in an enclosed space or partially enclosed area, like a garage.

The City of Joliet uses a variety of communication methods to inform residents and businesses about emergency situations such as winter weather events. Look for media releases issued by the City of Joliet Roadways Division addressing guidelines and helpful hints during winter snow events, including on-street parking restrictions. The City of Joliet website at www.cityofjoliet.info and Government Access Television JCTV Channel 6 on Comcast or Channel 99 on AT&T will also have helpful information.

Please visit www.ready.illinois.gov/during/winterstorms.htm or www.crh.noaa.gov/lot/?n=winter for additional information on Winter Storm Preparedness.

The City of Joliet is the fourth largest city in the state of Illinois, located just 45 miles southwest of Chicago's Loop. Home to over 147,000 residents, in addition to thriving businesses and attractions, the City of Joliet is easily accessible by rail, auto and bus transit. A perfect place to live, work and play, Joliet is constantly striving to promote growth and diversity. For more information on Joliet visit www.cityofjoliet.info or call 815.724.4000.

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