



## Winter Weather & Holiday Safety

Per the National Weather Service, winter weather is coming to Georgia and it has the potential to be significantly dangerous this year. As employees of DJJ and residents of your communities, the time to prepare yourselves and your families is NOW before emergencies and disasters emerge. Recent events such as local flooding, washed-out roads, downed trees, and power outages have taught us that it is only a matter of time before disaster strikes and we must be prepared when that time comes.

During a disaster, emergency services such as police, fire, and rescue may not always be able to reach us as quickly as we might like or need. When this happens, the most important step that one can do is take care of yourself and those in your immediate care during the critical first moments.

Over the next couple of weeks, take the time to emergency prepare your households for a scenario where you and your families must go three days without electricity, water services, access to a supermarket, or other local services. To do so, follow these four basic steps:

**Stay informed:** Information is available from federal, state, and local resources. Go to [ready.ga.gov](http://ready.ga.gov) to learn what to do before, during and after an emergency.

**Make a Plan:** Discuss, agree on, and document an emergency plan with those in your care. You can find sample plans at [ready.ga.gov](http://ready.ga.gov). Work with neighbors, colleagues, and others to build community resilience.

**Build a Kit:** Keep enough emergency supplies, such as water, non-perishable food, first aid, prescriptions, flashlight, and battery-powered radio, on hand for you and those in your care.

**Get Involved:** Participate in preparedness programs and activities to make your families and those around you safer from risks and threats. Consider planning a “Ready” event for your neighborhood, church, or school organization.

By taking a few simple actions, you can make yourself and those in your care much safer!



Sources: Ready Georgia  
Planning & Preparedness

DJJ Commissioner Avery D. Niles

# When the Weather Outside is Frightful

In a perfect world, everyone would spend a winter storm curled up by the fire with a good book or in front of the television watching some shows. However, fast-changing weather can make the reality of a winter storm more of a nightmare and less of an idyllic dream. In the event you find yourself without power during a storm or, even worse, out on the road, there are a few tips you can use to keep yourself safe.

If your power goes out, you will want to stay both safe and warm. Some steps for safety include:

- NEVER use a generator, grill, camp stove or charcoal burning device inside or in any partially closed area, as this could lead to deadly carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Use flashlights instead of candles to prevent the risk of fire.
- Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia, including: loss of feeling, white or pale appearance in extremities, uncontrollable shivering, disorientation, slurred speech, drowsiness and exhaustion.

Driving is dangerous during and immediately after a winter storm and you should make plans to stay off the road when advisories and watches are issued. If you MUST drive in winter weather, make sure you keep an extra Ready kit in the trunk of your car along with a portable cell phone charger, ice scraper, extra blanket, sand for traction and jumper cables.

If you find yourself stranded in your car during a winter storm, you will have to make the decision to stay or go. These criteria can help you make that decision:

## Stay in your car if...

- Rescue is likely
- There is no safe location visible or nearby
- You do not have appropriate clothing for going outside
- You do not have the ability to call for help

## Go if...

- A safe location is readily accessible
- You have visibility and outside conditions are safe
- You have appropriate clothing
- We hope the next snow storm finds everyone safe and warm in their homes – but when situations dictate otherwise, a little preparation and information will help you weather the storm.

### Winter Storm Safety Tips



**ON THE ROAD**

Do not drive unless absolutely necessary. If you must drive:

- › Slow down
- › Don't stop on a hill
- › Avoid abrupt steering maneuvers
- › Don't use cruise control

**AT HOME**

- › Allow faucets to drip to avoid freezing
- › Open cabinet doors to allow heat to get to uninsulated pipes
- › Use flashlights instead of candles to prevent the risk of fire
- › Never use an oven to heat your home
- › Use portable generators, camp stoves and grills outdoors – at least 20 feet away from windows, doors and vents to prevent deadly carbon monoxide poisoning



For more safety tips, visit [ready.ga.gov](http://ready.ga.gov)

Ready, Georgia 

For more important Winter Weather information, visit Ready Georgia online at [ready.ga.gov](http://ready.ga.gov).



# ***El Niño***

---

***Why get ready? Read the below media advisory that was released last week by the National Weather Service...***

## **Potential Impacts of Record-Breaking El Niño for North and Central Georgia**

While pegged to have the strongest El Niño since 1997-1998 and potentially reach record-breaking status, there is growing concern as to what impacts could be felt across North and Central Georgia this coming winter and spring. To start out, it's important to be familiar with what's actually happening. By definition, El Niño marks abnormally warm sea surface temperatures across the eastern and central portions of the tropical Pacific (at least +0.5 degrees Celsius above normal), which triggers an atmospheric response. Essentially the increased heat energy of the ocean results in a shift of the nearby weather circulations. This in turn can alter the jet stream pattern that affects storm tracks across the U.S., an influence more typically seen in the cool season.

One of the big players for us would be the sub-tropical jet setting up across the Southeast - something we have already seen enough of this fall. Yes, we typically have wetter than normal conditions and cooler farther south with El Niño in general, but what could a potentially record-breaking El Niño mean? To put it in perspective, the critical part of the Pacific is already reaching over 2.5 degrees above normal (more than five times the minimum threshold)! Taking a trip back through time, we analyzed the last five strongest El Niño periods on record since 1950 and boiled down the effects on the corresponding winters and following springs along with key events in an interactive story map: <http://noaa.maps.arcgis.com/home/>

Overall, the majority of periods were indeed wetter than normal – even the following springs (including significant flooding events in March of '98). This is not good news, considering how the area has already been dealing with multiple flooding events this fall, which has left much of the ground highly saturated. Temperature was more variable in the winters, however aside from '98, all other periods marked cooler than normal springs. How about snow? Observations show it's also highly variable in such periods, though significant events included a late season heavy snow in March of '83 and the snowiest winter on record for Columbus and Macon in '72-'73. Atlanta may have dodged the snow that year, although was hit instead by a crippling ice storm in early January.

Severe weather was prevalent in both the springs of '98 and '73 (a blockbuster of warnings issued in '98), including more frequent quick spin-up tornadoes across southern portions of the state (mostly F0-F1 category). Such observations fall in line with the idea of the sub-tropical jet typically focusing the tracks of storm systems across the region. Stronger tornadoes have occurred as well, including the devastating Gainesville tornado of March '98 causing F3 damage and 12 fatalities. While spring is more favorable for severe weather and stats from both strong and weak El Niño winters indicate a fairly consistent 30% decrease in Georgia tornadoes, serious winter tornado outbreaks have occurred. “For example, on December 2, 2009, during a moderately strong El Niño winter, a storm system produced seven tornadoes in Georgia. The strongest of which was an EF2 that injured two people and destroyed several homes in Appling County,” according to Dan Darbe, senior meteorologist with the National Weather Service....*story continued on next page*

**For more info to get “Weather Aware”:**

**[CLICK HERE](#)**



# El Niño

Whether we're more likely to have an ice storm, snow storm, significant flooding or severe weather outbreak, it's all up for grabs. History has shown that all have happened with different strong El Niño periods in the past. There is a better chance the sub-tropical jet will allow for above normal moisture off the northern Gulf of Mexico, although greater uncertainty exists with what disturbances or air masses may interact. "A single event cannot be directly attributed to a larger scale climate cycle like El Niño, though such a pronounced feature can very well increase the likelihood of having one impact the area," says Adam Baker, meteorologist with the National Weather Service.

There are multiple other patterns and influences occurring in our hemisphere that can contribute to impacts felt in Georgia. Separate from El Niño, the oscillating strength of the pressure systems in the Arctic and North Atlantic (referred to respectively as the AO and NAO indices) can allow for differences in the amount of cold polar air able to surge southward along with the likelihood of having precipitation. The problem is that the skill in forecasting these only goes out two weeks, so good luck estimating an overall influence for the upcoming seasons.

Other upstream factors that are being monitored are the extent of Siberian fall snow cover (hypothesized to influence how cold the dips in the polar jet stream can get across the U.S. during the winter) and the recently observed abnormal warming of the northeast Pacific (which may further enhance typical El Niño effects). Needless to say, there is no clear "smoking gun" when it comes to answering what type of impactful weather we may have, and is usually a combination thereof.

The main transition to an El Niño came by no surprise to local meteorologists this past spring, but the degree of it this winter could be unprecedented. "El Niño had been dragging it's feet the last year and a half, but it looks like it is more than making up for it's previous lack of presence", states Baker, who also indicated they usually last a year to year and a half. Georgia residents are encouraged to remain alert this winter and following spring for threatening weather, and always be prepared to protect life and property.

Source: NOAA

# DID YOU KNOW?

## Know Your Winter Weather Terms

Knowing winter weather terms helps you know when to put your personal preparedness plan into action.

WHEN YOU HEAR/SEE	THAT MEANS	YOU SHOULD
 <b>WINTER STORM WATCH</b> Typically issued 12 to 48 hours before the possibility of winter weather	Significant winter weather (snow, sleet, freezing rain, or a combination of these events) is <b>possible</b> , but not imminent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>› Make sure you have emergency supplies at home and in your vehicle</li><li>› Pay close attention to forecasts and the specific type of winter weather that is likely</li></ul>
 <b>WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY</b> Typically issued up to 36 hours before a weather event with 80 percent or greater chance of winter precipitation	Winter weather is <b>imminent</b> and may cause inconveniences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>› Put your winter weather safety plan into action</li><li>› Monitor local media for expected impacts</li><li>› Avoid unnecessary travel</li></ul>
 <b>WINTER STORM WARNING</b> Typically issued up to 36 hours before a weather event with 80 percent or greater chance of significant winter precipitation	A significant winter storm is <b>imminent</b> and is a dangerous threat to life and property.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>› Put your winter weather safety plan into action</li><li>› Monitor local media for expected impacts</li><li>› Avoid unnecessary travel</li></ul>

ready.ga.gov

Ready Georgia



# ***Christmas/Holiday Safety for YOUR home!***

The holiday season is a time for family, friends, fun, and thanksgiving! However, these special times can quickly turn to tragedy when fire safety precautions are not taken, especially when one considers that holiday decorations and businesses can increase your chances of a fire.

Fortunately, by following a few simple fire safety tips, you can keep your electric lights, candles, and the ever popular Christmas tree from creating a tragedy this holiday season by following a few simple steps.

**Christmas Trees:** What's a traditional Christmas without a beautifully decorated tree? If your household includes a natural tree in its festivities, take to heart the sales person's suggestion of "Keep the tree watered." Christmas trees account for hundreds of fires annually. Typically, electrical shorts in lights or open flames from candles or fireplaces can start tree fires. Well-watered trees are not a problem...a dry and neglected tree is!



Do not place your tree close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent as this will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignitable by heat, flame, or sparks. Be careful not to drop or flick cigarette ashes near a tree. Do not go near a Christmas tree with an open flame whether candles, lighters or matches. Do not put your live tree up too early or leave it up for longer than 2/3 weeks. Check the water level every other day and keep the tree stand filled with water at all times. When your tree gets dry, or you are ready to remove it, consider taking it to your local Recycling Center or a compactor site. Never put tree branches or needles in a fireplace or wood-burning stove.

Curious about how quickly a dry Christmas tree can ignite? Watch this video demonstration conducted by the National Institute of Science and Technology: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SFp92dPiuqY>

**Maintain Your Holiday Lights:** Inspect your holiday lights for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking/wear before putting them up. Use only lights listed by an approved testing laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratory.

Do not link more than three light strands together unless the directions indicate it is safe. Make sure to periodically check the wires – they should not be hot to the touch. Do not overload your electrical circuits. Do not leave holiday lights on unattended – when going to bed or leaving home!



Avoid using lit candles. Try using flameless candles, wickless candles, and candle warmers to achieve the same atmosphere. If you do use lit candles, make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they cannot be easily knocked over. There should be a 1-foot area around the candle that is clear of any items that might ignite. Never leave the house with candles burning. Children should not be left in areas where candles are burning.

## **Additional precautions to take:**

- Ensure that trees and other holiday decorations do not block an exit way. In the event of a fire, time to escape is of the essence. A blocked entry/exit way puts you and your family at risk.
- Never put wrapping paper in the fireplace. This can result in a very large fire, throwing off dangerous sparks and embers that may result in a chimney fire.
- Review your home escape plan with friends or relatives that may be staying overnight. Check your smoke alarm, and ensure that guests know the proper actions to take when the alarm sounds.
- Cooking is a big part of any holiday celebration. Since cooking is the number one cause of residential fires, it is important to stay in the kitchen when cooking. Do not allow children to play in the kitchen and make sure to keep pot handles turned inward toward the back of the stove.
- Space heaters should be placed at least 3-feet away from anything that will ignite including curtains, furniture, clothes, papers, and the like. Space heaters should be turned off when leaving home or going to bed.

Source: Planning & Preparedness



# Training Opportunities

---



**FEMA** | *Emergency  
Management  
Institute*

**DID YOU  
KNOW?**

## **Emergency Management Institute offers FREE training!**

The Emergency Management Institute's (EMI) Distance Learning (DL) Section offers the Independent Study Program (ISP). This is a distance learning program which offers training, free of charge, to the nation's emergency management network and the general public. It serves as both an alternative means to deliver valuable training to the professional and volunteer emergency management community, and an opportunity to improve public awareness and promote disaster preparedness nationally. The Independent Study Program offers over 175 training courses via the training website. There has been substantial growth in the program since 2004 due to the National Incident Management System training requirements.

How do you get started?

The fastest way to begin taking courses is to visit the website. You can learn about each course, download materials and take courses interactively. Just follow these easy steps:

- 1. Go to the website: <http://training.fema.gov/IS/>**
- 2. Click on ISP Course List**
- 3. Select your course of interest**

Once, you have studied the training material, you can submit your final exam, all from the convenience of your home or office. Upon successful exam completion, you will receive an email within one business day that confirms your transcript has been updated and a link to create your electronic certificate.

Source: FEMA/Homeland Security

---

## **Local Training Opportunities**

### **January 2016 - June 2016 Training Calendar will be finalized very soon!**

- ◆ Basic Juvenile Correctional Officer Training (BJCOT) Class #210 will be conducted on January 3, 2016 - February 12, 2016.
- ◆ Basic Juvenile Probation Officer Training (BJPOT) Class # 205 will be conducted on January 24, 2016 - March 11, 2016.
- ◆ Sergeants Academy will be taking place in Milledgeville on January 25, 2016 - February 5, 2016.
- ◆ Supervisor Level I will be taking place regionally throughout the state on January 25, 2016 - January 29, 2016.
- ◆ The Field Training Officer (FTO) Certification Program will be taking place on February 22, 2016 - February 26, 2016 in Milledgeville.
- ◆ First Aid & CPR Training will be taking place regionally throughout the state on January 4, 2016 - January 8, 2016.



## **Leadership & Local Celebrities...what they are saying...**

Some of the DJJ Executive Team and a few local “celebrities” were asked 7 questions about Preparedness and the Holidays...here are their answers!

1. **Why is it important to be prepared this winter?**
2. **What is your greatest fear when it comes to natural disasters and why?**
3. **While thinking of your home, car, and workplace...are you honestly prepared for this winter?**
4. **If no was the answer...what is the area you need to improve on and what are you going to do about it?**
5. **(Besides warm clothes) what ONE survival item would you choose to have during a winter storm?**
6. **My favorite Christmas movie is \_\_\_\_\_.**
7. **As a child, what was your favorite Christmas gift that you received and why?**



AC Sexton

**Mark Sexton, Assistant Commissioner, Chief of Staff**

1. Winter is a challenging time of year for preparedness because you can expect to have to respond to whatever your issue is, in cold weather and likely in the dark. Both of those conditions always make things harder.
2. Being in a tornado, because they are one of the most devastating forces of mother nature. They are unpredictable and there are very few structures that will provide complete shelter from their effects.
3. A little bit yes, but not completely
4. I need to get more water into my vehicle and make sure the batteries are updated in the flashlights.
5. Can't be just one. Has to be both a good knife and either a lighter or magnesium and flint fire-starter
6. It's a Wonderful Life
7. Wooden Kentucky Long Rifle. I was convinced I was Daniel Boone when I took it out in the woods with my dog.

**Sarah Draper, Deputy Commissioner—Operations & Compliance**

1. Because the effects of a winter storm can be long lasting and devastating and more dangerous than many think.
2. I am most fearful of tornadoes because they hit fast with little or no warning, change course, and do not discriminate regarding time, location, structure, victim, etc..
3. No
4. If no was the answer...what is the area you need to improve on and what are you going to do about it? I need to prepare a “kit” for my car in the event I get stranded in cold weather and need to walk or stay in my vehicle overnight.
5. Food
6. The Sound of Music (I know it's not really a “Christmas” movie but they tend to show it during the holidays.) And of course, It's a Wonderful Life.



DC Draper



# Leadership & Local Celebrities...*what they are saying...*

---

1. Why is it important to be prepared this winter?
  2. What is your greatest fear when it comes to natural disasters and why?
  3. While thinking of your home, car, and workplace...are you honestly prepared for this winter?
  4. If no was the answer...what is the area you need to improve on and what are you going to do about it?
  5. (Besides warm clothes) what ONE survival item would you choose to have during a winter storm?
  6. My favorite Christmas movie is \_\_\_\_\_.
  7. As a child, what was your favorite Christmas gift that you received and why?
- 

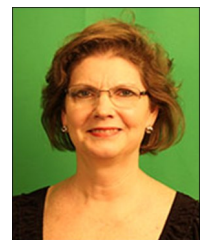


**Joe Vignati, Deputy Commissioner—Community Services**

1. Life is uncertain and while we can't anticipate everything that may come our way, being prepared for possible emergencies makes life a bit easier. Takes away a bit of the worry.
2. Not having the necessary information/warning that allows me to protect my family.
- 3/4. We feel pretty good about our winter preps for both home and vehicles. Alternate heat and light source, stocked up with water. Emergency radio. Emergency kits in both vehicles. Workplace, we are looking to Planning & Preparedness for that. :)
5. Access to water (first) and food.
6. It's an unbreakable tie between Charlie Brown Christmas & the Grinch Who Stole Christmas. Great messages and some great music.
7. I was big into reading as a kid and was a big fan of mysteries in particular. I must have been about 11 or 12 and I ran across a hardcover 2 volume set of The Annotated Sherlock Holmes. It contained every word Arthur Conan Doyle wrote about the adventures of the detective. And the cool part is that the annotations, really exhaustive notes, explained all the background details as you read the story; i.e. probable contents of Holmes library, geography of London, current historical events, and figures, and on and on. I kept admiring the book in our local department store but it was too expensive (\$100+), so it remained a dream. Every time our family went to the store, I would pore over the book. Ultimately, One day I went to the store and it was gone. And then forgotten by me. Flash forward to Christmas, 7 months later....and under the tree was the Book! I read and re-read those over and over through the years, until ulti-

## **BJ Williams, News Director—Jacobs Media**

1. Because you can never have too much milk and bread! Seriously, after last winter, I think most of us realize how easy it is to be caught without what we need when the power goes out for not just a few hours, but days. Batteries, blankets, non-perishable foods - stock up now!
2. Tornadoes are probably the scariest natural disaster. It's close to impossible to predict the path of twisters, so you're really at the mercy of Mother Nature when it comes to tornadoes.
3. No.
4. I need to improve everywhere. I'll probably start with my vehicle, since I have to get to work in bad weather. Blankets, change of clothes, that sort of thing. Then, the house...stock up on batteries and flashlights for sure.
5. Coffee. Without coffee, there is no survival.
6. It's A Wonderful Life .
7. No laughing...one year I got a rock tumbler. You could put the rough stones in the barrel and then you turned it on and it ran and ran and ran until you had these lovely little smooth stones, perfect for creating your own jewelry. Trouble is, I was too impatient, so my creations were a tad primitive. I learned it's better to buy your jewelry from the professionals!



**BJ Williams**





# Leadership & Local Celebrities...what they are saying...

---

1. Why is it important to be prepared this winter?
  2. What is your greatest fear when it comes to natural disasters and why?
  3. While thinking of your home, car, and workplace...are you honestly prepared for this winter?
  4. If no was the answer...what is the area you need to improve on and what are you going to do about it?
  5. (Besides warm clothes) what ONE survival item would you choose to have during a winter storm?
  6. My favorite Christmas movie is \_\_\_\_\_.
  7. As a child, what was your favorite Christmas gift that you received and why?
- 



**Jim Butterworth, Director—GEMA/Homeland Security**

Butterworth

1. As we learned a couple of years ago, when the weather can strike with very little warning. It's up to everyone to plan for the unexpected and prepare for as many potentialities as possible. If we do just a few of the things that are listed on the ready Georgia website we will all be just a little bit better off.
2. I have a genuine concern that the possibility of a hurricane impact in coastal Georgia and the potential impact that would mean to our state. It's been over 120 years since we have had a hurricane on the Georgia coast and because of that many are convinced it can't happen. It's up to all of us to understand and prepare for that possibility.

3/4. Yes

5. I have a 1986 Grand Wagoneer and I am truly convinced that it is unstoppable in winter weather. I truly believe that my Wagoneer is my survival item!
6. My favorite Christmas movie is it's a close call between Christmas vacation and elf. I think Christmas vacation wins out, though because I can truly relate to Clark Griswold.
7. I don't think I could name a favorite. From electric trains to new bicycles ridden on cold Christmas mornings to slotted race tracks... I've been truly blessed and now I'm doing my best to pass that on to our kids!

## **Miguel Fernandez, Deputy Commissioner—Support Services**

1. Since I have lived in Georgia It has been great enjoying the four seasons of the year. However, the season transitions and the seasons themselves can bring anything from extreme hail, thunderstorms, tornados. The Winter can bring extreme cold that includes snow, Icy conditions, etc. It is important to plan and be prepared because once these conditions come it is too late.

2. My greatest fear is not being ready when the time comes. Some of the extreme conditions will come quickly and readiness is about planning and thinking ahead. Having food, supplies and proper functioning equipment to manage through the event is crucial.

3/4. I feel I am mostly prepared as I need to be but it is important to check on supplies and resources on a regular basis, particularly as the new season arrives.

5. A means to manage heat should power be lost and the HVAC is not functional.

6. National Lampoons Christmas Vacation.

7. When I was 8, I got a brand new bike. Being the 6th child in a family of eight, I got a lot of hand me downs. I wanted a new bike and I received a shiny purple Schwinn. I enjoyed that bike for many years.



DC Fernandez



## Leadership & Local Celebrities...*what they are saying...*

---

1. Why is it important to be prepared this winter?
  2. What is your greatest fear when it comes to natural disasters and why?
  3. While thinking of your home, car, and workplace...are you honestly prepared for this winter?
  4. If no was the answer...what is the area you need to improve on and what are you going to do about it?
  5. (Besides warm clothes) what ONE survival item would you choose to have during a winter storm?
- 



S. Kimbler

### Scott Kimbler, Reporter—WYAY Radio

1. Because if you procrastinate of preparation, you are way behind. You get farther behind the work the winter is. You know it is coming, plan ahead.
  2. Ice storms. They immobilize communities and can go on for a good while. The region is never prepared enough. Tornadoes and thunderstorms come quickly, but are gone quickly too. Ice storms bring issues and they just keep coming and get worse with prolonged periods.
  3. No (getting there)
  4. My family needs to stock up on firewood and my cars need winterized.
  5. Food that lasts a while, water.
  6. A Christmas Story. The threat of soap blindness and shooting your eye out is both timeless and priceless.
  7. As a child, what was your favorite Christmas gift that you received and why? My older brother bought me a motorcycle when I was 12. It still tops the list.
- 

## Important Links:

[www.ready.ga.gov](http://www.ready.ga.gov)

Overall safety info and preparedness

[www.georgiadfirm.com](http://www.georgiadfirm.com)

Check to see if your property is in a flood prone area

[www.ready.ga.gov/be-informed/alerts-and-warnings/mobileapp/](http://www.ready.ga.gov/be-informed/alerts-and-warnings/mobileapp/)

Get the Ready Georgia App, stay informed with weather alerts

[www.wsbtv.com/sms/signup/](http://www.wsbtv.com/sms/signup/)

Sign up for WSB TV Alerts for School and Business Closings on your Phone



## A word from the Commissioner & GEMA/HS Director

---



“I’m happy to share the timely information compiled in this special newsletter by our new DJJ Office of Planning & Preparedness and Georgia’s Emergency Management Agency.

As Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice, I want to make sure that all of you who do so much for this agency also have a plan of your own to ensure your families are safe and cared for in the event of any emergency.

With a general forecast for a colder and wetter winter approaching, it only takes a few minutes to read over these helpful tips for coping with inclement weather.

You’ll also find some common-sense holiday safety suggestions you’ll want to share with your friends and neighbors.

Click on the links we’ve provided for more details at Ready Georgia and print out a copy of this newsletter to share with your DJJ colleagues who don’t have access to DJJ on-line. Remember to celebrate the Holiday Season safely. And remember, family is still the greatest gift anyone can wish for.”

Merry Christmas!

Avery D. Niles, Commissioner

Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice



As Director of Georgia’s Emergency Management Agency & Homeland Security, I want to emphasize the importance of the preparedness information provided in this newsletter. Every day you head to work at the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice you’re focused on caring for others. Today, we’re asking you to also make sure you take the time to look after yourself and your family. With winter approaching, now is the time to create a plan for what to do if an emergency happens. Check out the tools we’ve made available at Ready Georgia and talk to your loved ones about how you can prepare.



Merry Christmas,

Jim Butterworth

Director of GEMA/HS



---

NEWSLETTER COMPLIMENTS OF:

**DIVISION OF OPERATIONS & COMPLIANCE**

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, SARAH DRAPER

OFFICE OF PLANNING & PREPAREDNESS

SCOTT CAGLE

SCOTT.CAGLE@DJJ.STATE.GA.US

---

