

Battle Mountain Winter Checklist

High-Desert Freeze & Isolation Guide • Elevation ~4,514 ft • Zone 6a/6b

Regional Winter Advisory: Battle Mountain experiences prolonged sub-freezing spells (frequently dropping to 0°F to 15°F, with historic extremes below -10°F), low humidity, and high diurnal swings. Winter storms frequently disrupt transit along Interstate 80 and SR-305.

1. Residential Structural & Heat Defense

HOME & HEAT

☐ Heating System Calibration

Service furnace, clean heat pumps, and replace HVAC filters before first hard freeze in October/November.

☐ Chimney & Pellet Stove Sweep

Clear creosote buildup from wood stoves and stock seasoned firewood or pellets under dry cover.

☐ Weatherstripping & Draft Stops

Seal basement egress windows, crawlspace entries, and exterior doors against Great Basin windstorms.

☐ CO & Smoke Detectors

Test all units and install fresh 9V/lithium batteries; verify detector placement near bedrooms and heaters.

2. Plumbing & Water Line Winterization

PIPE FREEZE PROTOCOL

☐ Exterior Hose Bibs & Spigots

Disconnect, drain all garden hoses, and install insulated hard foam faucet covers on outside sillcocks.

☐ Sprinkler & Drip System Blowout

Use compressed air to evacuate lines and drain backflow preventers before deep ground frost locks in.

☐ Crawlspace & Mobile Home Skirting

Close crawlspace foundation vents; inspect skirting and heat tape around water main entries and risers.

☐ Sub-Zero Faucet Drip Setup

Identify vulnerable interior fixtures along exterior walls to set to a pencil-lead drip during nights below 10°F.

3. Fuel, Power Outage & Sustenance Reserves

72-HOUR SURVIVAL

☐ Propane Tank Topping

Maintain propane levels at 70%+; contract early with local suppliers (Suburban, Western States) prior to blizzards.

☐ Emergency Backup Power

Exercise generator under load, change oil, and store treated non-ethanol fuel with fuel stabilizer safely outdoors.

☐ Potable Water Storage

Store at least 1 gallon per person/pet per day for 5 days in food-grade jugs away from freezing points.

☐ Livestock & Pet Water Heaters

Inspect submersible tank de-icers, bucket heaters, and outdoor shelter windbreaks for rural parcels.

Travel Safety & Community Resources

Interstate 80 Corridor, SR-305 to Austin, and Lander County Support Contacts

4. High-Desert Vehicle Winterization

TRANSIT READY

☐ **Cold-Cranking Battery Health**
Test Cold Cranking Amps (CCA); clean corroded battery terminals; severe cold drops vehicle cranking power by 50%.

☐ **Winter Antifreeze & Fluid Mix**
Verify 50/50 ethylene glycol mix tested to -30°F; fill washer reservoir with sub-zero rated de-icer fluid only.

☐ **Tire Tread & Nevada Chain Laws**
Check for M+S or 3PMSF rating with 4/32"+ tread depth. Pack properly fitted snow chains for mountain passes.

☐ **Half-Tank Fuel Minimum**
Never let tank drop below half to prevent fuel line condensation and ensure idle heat if stranded on remote routes.

5. Vehicle Winter Survival Kit (Mandatory for I-80 & SR-305)

TRUNK GEAR

Category	Recommended Supplies	Priority Level
Thermal Gear	Sub-zero sleeping bag, wool blankets, emergency bivvy, hand warmers, insulated boots, heavy gloves.	Critical
Recovery & Tools	Compact snow shovel, tow strap, ice scraper, traction sand/kitty litter, heavy-duty jumper cables or booster pack.	Critical
Signaling & Light	High-lumen LED flashlight, road flares/LED beacons, whistle, high-visibility vest.	High Priority
Nutrition & Power	High-calorie rations (nuts, jerky), insulated water thermos, external power bank and 12V vehicle chargers.	High Priority

6. Lander County Critical Winter Contacts

LOCAL NUMBERS

Emergency Services
911
Police, Fire & Rescue

Lander County Sheriff
(775) 635-1100
Dispatch: (775) 635-5161

BM General Hospital
(775) 635-2550
535 S. Humboldt Street

Nevada Road Info (NDOT)
511 / [nvroads.com](https://www.nvroads.com)
I-80 & SR-305 pass conditions

NV Energy Outages
(800) 962-4168
Electric utility response

BM Plumbing
(775) 389-7651
Local plumber