



Preparing for Cold Weather

A hard freeze is likely **Wednesday night into Thursday morning**. Forecast lows are expected to drop into the teens, possibly even a few single digits in the normally colder valley locations. North winds of 10 to 15 mph will create minimum wind chill values in the -2 to +5 degree range. Temperatures will be in the 20s Thursday night and Friday night as well. No frozen precipitation is expected during the hard freeze. However, we could experience up to **38 hours of continuous temperatures below 32 degrees**.

Frequently, a hard freeze can lead to pipes bursting and other issues that could potentially cause a disruption of work, laboratory, classroom or patient care activities. As you prepare for the cold weather, please take a few minutes to consider the following tips:

- Make sure all critical data is backed up.
- Make sure all critical equipment is plugged into emergency power outlets (usually indicated by the red plugs) if available.
- Make sure you keep basic supplies, **including personal medications**, in your office, lab, or car in the event you get stranded for some reason.
- Be prepared by making sure all chemicals or critical supplies are placed above the floor level, in case of flooding.

Everyone is encouraged to check your vehicle's antifreeze, hoses, and overall winter-ready conditions, as this is the first hard freeze for central Alabama this winter. You are also encouraged to pack a winter bag with extra clothes and blankets in case you experience travel problems. Medications and basic supplies such as water, gloves, etc should be considered with your winter bag.

For additional preparedness information check www.uab.edu/emergency