

Winter Weather at Appalachian

Winter weather at Appalachian usually includes snow, ice, freezing rain, and sleet from November through April. Those that have spent several years in the Boone area understand how quickly the weather can change from a sunny and mild day to a severe snow storm in only an hour. **Appalachian faculty, staff, and students need to become familiar the Boone climate and check weather forecasts frequently throughout the winter months.** Check the forecast often because conditions change often.

Class Cancellation & Campus Closure

How the University makes a decision to cancel classes:

University police officers monitor the campus roads and alert the Physical Plant when the roads and parking lots become icy or snow covered. Between 5 a.m. and 5:30 a.m., University Police contacts the Watauga County Sheriff's Office, Boone Police Department, and Blowing Rock Police Department for an update of any major road issues that create special hazards for those traveling to campus. University Police then contacts AppalCart for schedule delays and updates. All information is then forwarded to the Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, who works with the Provost to make a recommendation to the Chancellor. The Chancellor or the Chancellor's designee will determine when Emergency Closing Conditions exist. Other considerations for cancellation and/or closure include forecasts, sidewalk accessibility, and a number of other variables based upon the specific weather event.

How the University notifies faculty, staff, and students:

Once the University cancels classes or closes, the information is automatically posted to the University's homepage, telephone snow line, campus e-mail, and local media. **Faculty, staff, and students should monitor campus e-mail, the university homepage, 262-SNOW, and local media for any changes to the university's operational status..**

Winter Driving Safety

Several health and safety risks are associated with winter weather. The majority of winter weather accidental injuries at Appalachian are associated with **driving**. **Please visit the Appalachian Storm Ready website for more information at stormready.appstate.edu for additional safety information.**

Winter Driving Tips*

Clear: Remove any snow on your vehicle's windows, lights, brake lights and signals.

Inspect: Check your vehicle's tires, wiper blades, fluids, lights, belts and hoses.

Time: Allow plenty of time to reach your destination safely.

Limited Visibility: Stay attentive and reduce speed. Know what's going on around you.

Speed: The faster you're going, the longer it will take to stop; take it slow to avoid slipping or sliding. *Ice and Snow, Take it Slow.*

Black Ice: You cannot see black ice on the road. Take it slow when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges or shady areas.

Distance: Leave extra room between you and the vehicle in front of you.

Brake: Brake early, brake slowly, brake correctly, and never slam on the brakes.

*Winter Driving Tips from the Indiana Department of Transportation web site, available at <http://www.in.gov/indot/2795.htm>

Winter STORM READY!