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MEDIA RELEASE

Winter Awareness Week 2019

For Immediate Release

Date: 11/05/19

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Governor Tony Evers has declared November 4 – 8, 2019, as Winter Awareness Week to help everyone prepare for the cold temperatures and heavy snowfall anticipated annually in Wisconsin. As you prepare for the winter season, this is the perfect time to make sure you have fresh batteries in the smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and NOAA Weather Radios at home. It's also important to make sure you have an emergency kit in your home and vehicles, supplied with non-perishable food, bottled water, blankets, flashlights with extra batteries, vehicle cell phone charger, and a first aid kit.



Winter driving can be extremely hazardous. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation says an average of 46 people were killed and almost 4,200 injured each year in crashes on icy or snow-covered roads in the state. On average, there are about 18,000 vehicle crashes in the state each year caused by poor winter driving conditions.

You can check travel conditions for most major roadways in the state by using 511 Wisconsin, which is updated with the latest traffic and road conditions. This information, along with live traffic cameras and traffic alerts, can be accessed through the free 511 Wisconsin mobile app, @511WI on Twitter, or the mobile-friendly site www.511wi.gov.

The Rock County Sheriff's Office will continue to promote winter safety throughout the season ahead. By taking the appropriate steps to prepare for the weather conditions, we can collectively work to minimize the number of accidents occurring during the winter season.

For more information visit Ready Wisconsin at <http://ready.wi.gov>. You can also follow Ready Wisconsin on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Troy J. Knudson
SHERIFF

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