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# Shelby Safety Net

## Be Aware; Be Ready

**PREPAREDNESS TIPS AND PRACTICES TO KEEP YOU, YOUR FAMILY,  
YOUR BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SAFE**

Fall brings shorter days and cooler nights signaling that it's time to prepare for the transition to winter. It's important to be aware of the changes of the season and to take safety measures for your family found in this newsletter.

Have a family fire escape plan and practice it, ready your home and yard for the approaching cold weather, and practice safe driving habits. Fall is a time for fun and family. Put these tips into practice today to ensure a safe and enjoyable season.



### Fall Family Safety

Practice your family fire escape plan before the weather gets too cold. Having the plan is important, but it's just as critical to practice it by conducting a home fire drill at least twice a year. Frightened kids may be tempted to hide under the bed or in a closet during a fire unless you teach them exactly how to escape. Key elements to include:

- Every room should have two exits.
- Upstairs rooms should have escape ladders.
- Establish a meeting point.
- Plan a buddy system to make sure everyone is accounted for.

Fall is back-to-school season, bringing with it back-to-school traffic in the early mornings and late afternoons. This signals an increase of school buses, cars on the road, and pedestrian traffic at crosswalks and bus stops.

Dress kids in light-colored clothing to help drivers see them on their way home from after-school activities. Outfit them with reflective gear on backpacks, outerwear and bikes. A flashing light is recommended for bike safety.

On Halloween, make sure your kids can be seen. Give them a flashlight and glowstick. Add some reflective stickers or tape to their costume.

***September is National Preparedness Month***  
***Prepared, Not Scared***



## Home and Yard

Fall is the time for yard clean-up and readying your house for the cold winter ahead.

In addition to testing your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors and changing batteries, check and replace any home fire extinguishers that have expired.

Turn your furnace on before it's needed to make sure it works. Keep all flammable materials away from your furnace. Have your furnace inspected before winter sets in.

When your home allows cold drafts in, it forces your furnace to work harder in order to heat your house. Keep the cold air out by improving the insulation in your attic and walls.

Use space heaters safely. A good rule of thumb is to keep combustibles "three feet from the heat" or "a meter from the heater". Remember to shut space heaters off if you leave the house and before you go to bed.

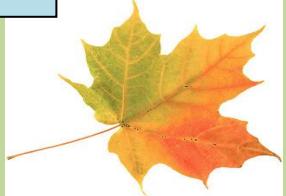
Doing laundry? Prevent dryer fires by cleaning filters after each load of wash and removing lint that collects in dryer vents.

Buy your winter storm supplies now. Buy a good supply of ice melting compound. If you'll need your driveway plowed, book a snowplow contractor now. Don't wait until it snows.

De-clutter the gutters. Trim the trees.

Find the Shelby Safety Net on-line at <http://co.shelby.oh.us/>

You can now register with the Shelby County mass notification system by phone. Just call 937-265-8400 to receive tornado and other severe weather warnings. Messages will come via phone, text, or both.



## Shelby County Receives Safety Awards

Shelby County received two awards at the Shelby County Safety Council Awards Banquet on May 15. A special award was given for "Its efforts in preventing accidents and injuries in the workplace from 11/6/17-12/31/18 and 1,072,151 hours". The second award was for "Group, 100%, and Achievement for its effort in preventing accidents and injuries in the workplace."

**Congratulations to all Shelby County agencies and departments for your safety and prevention efforts!**



## Slippery When Wet

**Weather conditions** can contribute to hazardous driving conditions. Here are a few to be aware of when driving:

- Rain: Water can pool on top of dust and oil, making the pavement slippery.
- Leaves: They can litter the roads, making it slippery and obscuring vision of traffic lines, other pavement markings and even potholes.
- Frost: Temperatures can drop dramatically in the night, making ice spots on areas of the road, such as bridges, overpasses and shaded areas.

Fog: Limits your visibility when driving.

**Tend to your tires.** If tires have enough tread, they perform better on rainy surfaces, and they stop faster and steer better on dry ones. Also, proper tire pressure helps keep you rolling smoothly and safely. The correct pressure will be noted on a decal pasted on the driver's side door jamb or the door itself. The pressure that's noted on the tire is the maximum for that tire, and that could be wrong for your car.

Public Information: For more information about the Shelby County Safety Committee, please contact the Shelby County Commissioners Office, 129 E Court St, Sidney OH 45365, 937-498-7226.

The purpose of the Shelby County Safety Committee is to outline safety guideline requirements which will provide the basis for compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act (PERRP/OSHA) Part 1910 – Occupational Safety and Health Standards for the Code of Federal Regulations Title 29. To provide a mechanism to conduct self-audit evaluations to ensure the safety and health of site employees, and to provide a safe and healthful work environment.

**Fall back.**  
Daylight savings ends Saturday, November 6. Check the operation of all your smoke and CO detectors and change the batteries when you change your clocks.



**Smoke detectors save lives. Request a smoke or CO detector from:**

**Sidney Fire Station**  
**937-498-2346**

**American Red Cross**  
**937-332-1414**

