

The DO's & DON'TS of Shelter-In-Place

DO's

- ✓ Stay inside
- ✓ Unplug laboratory equipment
Safely put away chemicals
- ✓ Collect all non-perishable foods, blankets, heaters, and potential water buckets
- ✓ Stay near your other lab members
- ✓ Follow the Crisis Management Team's instructions
- ✓ Read the Blizzard Crisis Management Plan for the University of Minnesota Laboratories

DON'Ts

- ✗ Go outside for long periods of time, you will risk frostbite or hyperthermia
- ✗ Use generators inside
- ✗ Leave your lab members without authorization
- ✗ Fear monger with other faculty. Stay strong and help to keep every one calm.
- ✗ Evacuate without express approval from the Crisis Management Team

For more tips on evacuating or on shelter-in-place, see the RBMS Blizzard Crisis Management Plan

How to Know If I Should Evacuate During a Blizzard?

Use <https://www.weather.gov/mpx/hazards>
to check the status of the blizzard.

If the blizzard is marked as being in the
OUTLOOK or **WATCH** phase and will not arrive
for 2 or more hours

OR

If your environment is potentially unsafe,
such as having significant structural damage
or fire risk.

EVACUATE

For more tips on evacuating or on shelter-in-place, see the RBMS Blizzard Crisis
Management Plan

The **4** Key Steps To Evacuating Before a Blizzard



**University of Minnesota
Laboratories**

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1 Shut Down The Laboratory



Turn off all laboratory equipment and electronics.

Blizzards can cause sudden shut off of power or flooding, which can damage equipment if left on.



Properly store all lab chemicals.

Chemicals left in the open may cause fires, accidents, or product loss when left unattended.

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2 Pack Personal Belongings



Take any personal effects from your office, locker, or lab- The best Items to pack are:

- **Perishables**
- **Sentimental items**
- **Electronics**

Blizzards can cause road shutdowns. Anything left behind at the facility will be unreachable during that time.

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3 Inform Your Supervisor

 **Inform your supervisor, lab manager and a member of the Crisis Management team that you are leaving the building**

During shelter-in-place, headcounts will occur to make sure no staff member is missing. It is important to let a manager know of your departure so they know you are not present.

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4

Prepare for the Road



Make sure that your transportation is still available.

Some public transportation modes or routes shut down in advance of a blizzard. It is important to know this information before you arrive at the bus stop or attempt to drive home.



Leave the building quickly and calmly.

Make sure to be fast and keep calm when leaving the building and parking lot to prevent traffic congestion.

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