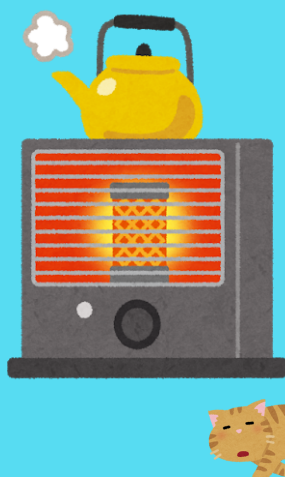


# Winter is here!

TIPS TO STAY SAFE AND ENJOY WINTER IN HOKKAIDO



## 1.) CHECK YOUR HEATER TANK

There are many different ways to refill gas and kerosene heaters, depending on the make and model. Always be sure to check the instruction manual. Also, keep an eye on your fuel levels throughout the winter so you don't get caught in a blizzard on empty!



## 2.) PREPARE FOR WINTER DRIVING

Hokkaido is known for sudden blizzards and white-outs. In case of trouble, prepare an emergency kit for your car, including things like water, warm clothing, blankets, winter boots, a shovel, jumper cables etc.



It is not uncommon for roads to close due to poor driving conditions. Always be sure to keep an eye on road information!

<https://info-road.hdb.hkd.mlit.go.jp/RoadInfo/index.htm>

## 3.) STOW OR PREP YOUR BICYCLE

Riding a bicycle on the snow can be very dangerous. If you won't be using your bike in the winter, be sure to store it properly inside. Those of you who MUST ride during the winter, be sure to use the proper winter tires!



## 4.) LEARN HOW TO DRAIN YOUR PIPES

When the outside temperature drops below zero, there is a risk that your pipes may freeze. In order to prevent damages from frozen and/or burst pipes, be sure to double check how to drain your pipes. Be sure to learn how the system works in your own home.



You can use the How-To Videos released by the Sapporo Water Bureau as a reference, but if you are unsure, don't hesitate to ask the property manager of your home!

How to Videos (Japanese only):

[https://www.city.sapporo.jp/suido/riyosya/faq/toketu\\_01.html](https://www.city.sapporo.jp/suido/riyosya/faq/toketu_01.html)



## 5.) PREPARE FOR BLIZZARDS WHILE AT HOME

During blizzards, you may need to stay at home for long periods of time, sometimes without power. Be sure to prepare flashlights, portable radios, winter clothes, portable heaters, extra kerosene or other fuel, emergency food, and drinking water.

We can answer any questions you have about winter, or anything else, so please don't hesitate to get in touch!

MON-FRI 9:00-12:00, 13:00-17:00



English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Thai, Russian, Spanish, Portuguese, Nepali, Indonesian, Burmese and Khmer

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