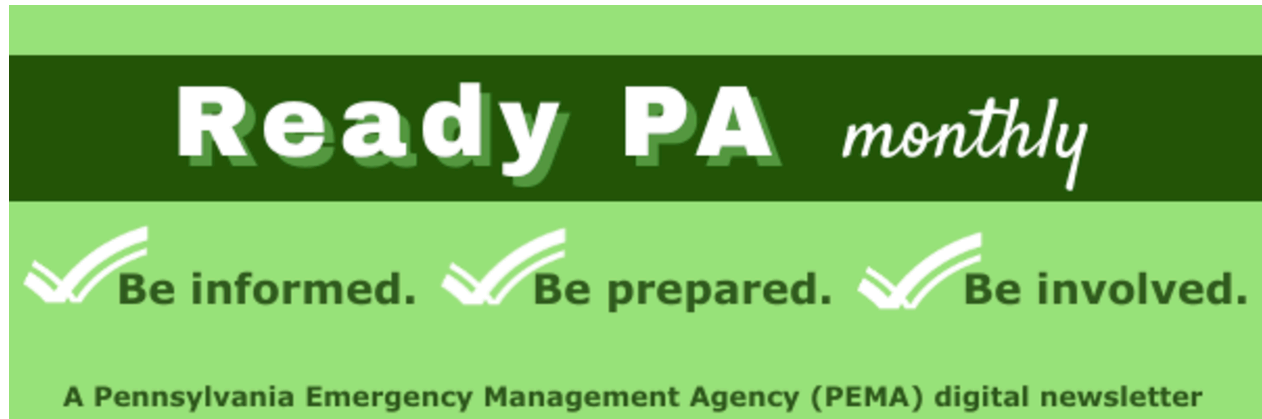


Ready PA Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency <readypa@pa.gov>

12/5/2024 3:59 PM

# Ready PA - Holiday Readiness: Safety Tips to Keep the Season Bright - December Edition

To kjones275@comcast.net



Ready PA Monthly - December 2024



# Holiday Travel: Stay Safe & Keep the Season Bright

The holiday season is a time for joyful gatherings and cherished moments with loved ones, and your journey can be just as memorable as your destination. By following a few simple safety tips, you can make your holiday travel smooth, stress-free, and safe.

## **Buckle Up for a Secure Trip**

Wearing a seatbelt is one of the easiest ways to protect yourself and your passengers. It can increase your chances of surviving a crash by up to 60%. Make sure everyone in your vehicle is properly buckled up, including children in the right safety seats. Whether you're traveling across town or across the state, seatbelts are a must for every trip.

## **Drive with Peace of Mind**

The holidays are full of excitement, and staying calm behind the wheel helps keep your travels enjoyable. When faced with busy traffic or unexpected delays, take a deep breath, focus on the positives, and remember that a little patience goes a long way in making the journey smoother for everyone.

## **Celebrate Safely and Responsibly**

The holidays are about sharing good times, but always make sure those good times don't spill over into risky driving behavior. If you're celebrating with alcohol or taking medications that affect your abilities, plan ahead to get home safely. A designated driver, rideshare service, or staying overnight can help ensure everyone stays safe.

## **Take Your Time and Drive Safely**

The best gift you can give your loved ones is your safe arrival. Adjust your speed to match the conditions and avoid rushing. The journey is part of the holiday experience, so enjoy the ride and take in the beauty of the season.

## **Stay Ready for Winter Weather**

The magic of the holidays often comes with unpredictable weather. Be prepared by checking the forecast and road conditions before you head out. Allow extra time for your trip, and if you encounter wintry weather, slow down, increase your following distance, and stay alert for changing conditions.

## **Stay Focused and Connected**

Your undivided attention is the best tool for staying safe on the road. Put your phone away and focus on the joy of the journey. If you need to make a call or send a text, find a safe place to stop first.

## **Rest Up for the Road**

Traveling well-rested helps you stay sharp and alert behind the wheel. Plan breaks during long trips, switch drivers if possible, and make sure you're getting plenty of sleep before hitting the road.

Every choice you make behind the wheel helps ensure a safer journey for you, your loved ones, and everyone sharing the road. Let's work together to make this holiday season one filled with joy, connection, and happy memories.

---



## Sizzling Safely This Holiday Season

The holidays are here, and so is the aroma of delicious home-cooked meals wafting through the house. But before you dive into that recipe or perfect your gravy game, let's talk about keeping the heat where it belongs – in the kitchen, not in your home.

Did you know cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and injuries? The culprit? Unattended cooking. Let's keep things merry and bright (and not smoky or charred!) with these safety tips:

### Cooking Commandments for a Safe Feast

- Focus, focus, focus: Avoid multitasking! Whether it's kids on winter break or the irresistible urge to scroll through holiday sales, keep your eyes on the stove.
- Stay close to the action: If you're frying, grilling, boiling, or broiling, don't step away. Simmering or baking? Use a timer and keep checking in like a nosy neighbor.
- Flammable-free zone: Stash oven mitts, wooden spoons, food packaging, towels, and curtains far, far away from your stovetop
- Skip the stovetop if you're sleepy: Or if the eggnog hit a little too hard. Better safe than sorry.

### What to Do if Things Get Heated

- First rule: Get out. Leave the house and close the door behind you to slow the fire's spread. Call 9-1-1 immediately.

- Small grease fire? Smother it! Slide a lid over the pan and turn off the heat. Keep the lid on until it's completely cool.
- Oven mishap? Turn off the heat and keep that door closed like it's a Pandora's box.

Holiday memories are best served warm, not charred! For more safety tips and resources, visit the Office of the State Fire Commissioner's [website](#) and [Facebook page](#). Let's #BeFireSafe and keep the focus on good food, great company, and unforgettable holiday cheer.



## Prep the Halls

*Sing it to the tune of "Deck the Halls"*

Winter is creeping up on us. It's time to "Prep the Halls." Go ahead and sing along with us.

Prepare your home for winter hazards,

Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Tis the season for full fuel tanks,

Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Check we now our smoke detectors,

Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Scroll for more tips on [Ready PA](#),

Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Keep the blazing Yule with a clean chimney,

Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Start the generator and keep it outdoors,

Fa la la la la, la la la la.  
Follow me in preparedness measures,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.  
While I winterize my car,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Cover pipes with insulation,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.  
Sealing windows prevents cold drafts,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.  
Charge electronics, and stock up on batteries,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.  
Heed these tips for wind and weather,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

---

DECEMBER TIP SHEET: WINTER DRIVING GUIDE

DECEMBER SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLKIT

If you received this newsletter as a forward, subscribe here.



Learn more at [pema.pa.gov](http://pema.pa.gov) and [ready.pa.gov](http://ready.pa.gov).  
PEMA on Facebook  
PEMA on X  
PEMA on LinkedIn

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using **TrueRemove®**

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

1310 Elmerton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA | 17110 US

This email was sent to [kjones275@comcast.net](mailto:kjones275@comcast.net).  
*To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.*

**emma**