Severe Weather Awareness Week
Feb. 6 — 10

While we are still in the midst of Winter (allegedly, anyway), next week begins Georgia’s Severe Weather Awareness Week.

This week provides Georgians with an opportunity to dust off their severe weather plans and knowledge and prepare for the threat of thunderstorms, lightning, hail, strong winds, and tornadoes brought on by spring.

Even though it is only February, Georgia just had its greatest one-day tornado outbreak in history as 41 tornadoes impacted the state of Georgia in a single day in late January.

Severe weather is a year-round occurrence in Georgia, and we must remain weather aware each and every day. We encourage our Crisis Coordinators to stay weather aware by utilizing the forecasts issued by the National Weather Service in Peachtree City.

Each day during the week of Feb. 6-10, the National Weather Service will focus upon a different aspect of severe weather we might see in Georgia. The Office of Emergency Management will share its daily dose of information via its social media platforms to try and keep our community aware.

If you ever have any weather questions, please feel free to let us know and we will help however we can!
Chris Sharpe
Barrett Cappetto

Chris, a crisis coordinator since its inception, started as the lead crisis coordinator for the Sturgis Library on KSU’s main campus. Chris attended the Multi-hazard Emergency Planning for Higher Ed course. He is a CERT member and now serves on the Marietta campus as the assistant director of Access Service for the Johnson Library.

Congrats, Chris!

Barrett started at KSU in September 2016. He’s an administrative assistant III for Enrollment Services on the Marietta campus. Previously, he worked in adult education with Cobb and Paulding County Schools. Barrett is currently pursuing his bachelor’s degree at Georgia Highlands College.

Congrats, Barrett!
**KEEP SAFE THIS WINTER**

Via FEMA’s *Individual and Community Preparedness e-Brief*

**DRESS WARMLY THIS WINTER**

Remember to stay vigilant of the cold temperatures brought on by winter for both you and your loved ones. Here are some tips on how to keep warm when venturing out in the cold:

- Dress for winter weather by wearing several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing. The outer garments should be tightly woven and water repellent.
- Wear mittens, if possible, which are warmer than gloves.
- Cover as much exposed areas of your body as possible. This includes wearing a hat and scarf, insulated and waterproof shoes and covering your mouth to protect your face from cold and windburn.

These tips can help to prevent loss of body heat.

Find more winter safety information in the America’s PrepareAthon! [How to Prepare for a Winter Storm](#) guide.
**HEAT YOUR HOME SAFELY**

According to the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), half of all home heating fires occur in December, January, and February. Make sure your home heating device is safe by following USFA heating tips to maintain a fire-safe home this winter.

- Keep anything that can burn at least three (3) feet from all heat sources including fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, space heaters or candles.
- Never use an oven to heat your home.
- Only use space heaters that have automatic shut off if it tipped over or becomes too hot.
- Use a metal or heat-tempered glass screen when using your fireplace.
- Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected annually by a qualified professional.

For more information on how to keep specific heating devices safe, such as a furnace, space heater, kerosene heater, fireplace or wood stove, visit the USFA’s Heating Fire Safety page, the America’s PrepareAthon! How to Prepare for a Winter Storm guide.

**Stay fire safe this winter as you heat your home.**

Keep wood stove doors closed unless adding wood or pellets or stoking the fire.
KEEP SAFE THIS WINTER  (CONTINUED)

Via FEMA’s Individual and Community Preparedness e-Brief

Six Ways to Protect Pets in Winter

If it’s too cold for you, it is probably too cold for your pet. Remember to bring animals inside.

Make sure your four-footed family members stay safe and warm by following these simple guidelines from The Humane Society:

- Remember to bring your pets inside. Do not leave pets outdoors when the temperature drops.
- Exposed skin on noses, ears, and paw pads are at risk for frostbite and hypothermia during extreme cold snaps. Even during short walks, short-haired dogs can become cold quickly and may feel more comfortable wearing a sweater.
- Rock salt and other chemicals used to melt snow and ice can irritate the pads of your pet’s feet and may be toxic if ingested. Wipe all paws with a damp towel before your pet licks them and irritates their mouth. Use pet-safe products whenever possible.
- If there are feral or stray cats in your area, they need protection from the elements as well as food and water. Learn more.
- Warm engines in parked cars attract cats and small wildlife, who may crawl up under the hood. Bang on your car’s hood to scare them away before starting your engine.

If you encounter a pet left in the cold, politely let the owner know you’re concerned. If someone you raise these concerns with continues to neglect their animals, follow these steps to report wintertime neglect.

For more information, visit the Humane Society or find Cold Weather Guidelines for Large Animals and Livestock on www.ready.gov.

DON'T FORGET TO WIPE YOUR DOG’S PAWS!

Ice-melting chemicals can make your pet sick.
Important Dates and Training

- Bleeding Control
  Wednesday, March 15 — 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
  Norton Hall (Marietta) Police Training Room

- Crisis Coordinator Training
  Tuesday, March 21 — 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
  Chastain Pointe 312

- Marietta Campus Safety Day
  Wednesday, March 22 — 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
  In between Norton Hall and Howell Hall

March 2017

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How will I know whether campus is open, closed or delayed?

Check the following resources to determine whether KSU is open, closed or delayed due to inclement weather.

**Web**
- www.kennesaw.edu
- oem.kennesaw.com

**The Campus Advisory Page**
- www.kennesaw.edu/advisories

**Twitter**
- www.twitter.com/kennesawstate
- www.twitter.com/KSU_Safety

**Facebook**
- www.facebook.com/KennesawStateuniversity
- www.facebook.com/kennesawstateOEM

**Local Media Outlets**
- www.cbs46.com
- www.wsbtv.com

On-campus emergencies: 470-578-6666
Off-campus emergencies: 911
Non-emergencies: 470-578-6206

Personal safety should be No. 1. If you do not feel safe to travel, don’t.