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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City encourages residents to prepare for weather now

MURPHY (February 1, 2022) American statesman, engineering, and inventor Benjamin Franklin, who made a bit of history during a thunderstorm, is credited with saying, "By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail." The adage from the famously bespeckled fan of bad weather is highly relevant today.

Making adequate preparations for any inclement weather that may arrive this season is extremely important, as weather forecasters predict some form of wintery mix over the next several weeks. Waiting until the arrival of the weather system to implement the necessary safeguards is too late.

The City of Murphy urges residents to do what they can now to be ready if and when the inclement weather arrives. Here are some tips for home and auto that can help.

- Wrap exposed pipes with insulation sleeves or two inches of UL-listed heat tape.
- Caulk cracks and holes in the home's outer walls and foundation. Holes left by cable installation can also leave pipes exposed.
- Clear rain gutters, repair roof leaks, check your roof to make sure it can handle the extra weight of any snow and ice, and cut away tree branches that could fall on a house or neighboring structure.
- Install and test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors with battery backups.
- Ensure there are sufficient flashlights and extra batteries.
- Have your chimney or flue inspected each year.
- Consider buying alternative heating resources. All heaters that run on fuel (natural gas, kerosene, butane, oil) should be vented.
- Stay off the road if possible. If trapped in your car, stay inside.
- Create an emergency supply kit for all your vehicles. Include matches, a windshield scraper, jumper cables, a flashlight, warm clothes, blankets, bottled water, non-perishable snacks, and a bright cloth to tie to the antenna.
- Store a small broom and a small sack of sand in your vehicle for generating traction under wheels and a set of tire chains or traction mats.
- Have a mechanic check your battery, antifreeze, wipers, windshield washer fluid, lights, flashing hazard lights, heater, brakes, defroster, and oil.
- Install good winter tires with adequate tread. All-weather radials are usually adequate, but some jurisdictions require vehicles to be equipped with chains or snow tires with studs.

Visit www.ready.gov for more information. Early preparation will surely pay off and could be lifesaving.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 20,010, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income well above the state average. With more than 80 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a family-oriented community with a strong sense of place. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.