

Don't Let the "Deep Freeze" Compromise Your Facility's Safety.

Heating & Electrical Safety

- Space Heater Policy:** Ensure all portable heaters are at least 3 feet from combustible materials and plugged directly into wall outlets (never power strips).
- Electrical Load:** Check for "daisy-chained" extension cords used for temporary winter lighting or heaters.
- HVAC Inspection:** Confirm that furnace filters are clean and exhaust vents are clear of snow/ice buildup to prevent Carbon Monoxide (CO) backup.



Fire Suppression & Sprinklers

- Pipe Protection:** Verify that "dry" sprinkler systems have been properly drained of condensation to prevent frozen/burst pipes.
- Temp Monitoring:** Ensure unheated areas (attics, parking garages) containing wet pipes are maintained at a minimum of 40°F.
- Antifreeze Levels:** For systems using antifreeze, confirm the solution is at the proper concentration for your region's record lows.

Detection & Notification

- CO Detector Testing:** Carbon Monoxide risks peak in winter. Test all CO detectors and ensure backup batteries are fresh.
- Sensitivity Check:** Cold, dry air can cause an increase in "nuisance alarms" due to static or dust. Ensure detectors are clean and calibrated.
- External Devices:** Check that exterior horn/strobes or annunciators are clear of snow drifts or ice shells.

Egress & Access

- Exit Paths:** Verify that all emergency exit doors are shoveled, salted, and swing freely (ice buildup at the base can jam doors).
- Fire Lanes:** Ensure fire hydrants on the property are visible and accessible to the Fire Department through snow piles.
- Access Control:** Check that electronic gate motors and outdoor badge readers are functioning in sub-zero temperatures.

Monitoring & Response

- Call List Audit:** Does our monitoring center have the correct contact info for your "after-hours" winter emergency contacts?
- Test Signal:** Send a manual test signal to the MWAS monitoring center to ensure the communication path is clear during winter storms.
- Staff Protocol Review:** Ensure onsite teams can distinguish between "Trouble" signals and "Fire" alarms to prevent costly false alarm fines and unnecessary dispatches.

Need a professional eye? **Contact Midwest Alarm Services today** to schedule a mid-winter system health check with our expert team.