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Van Buren Fire Department
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Winter Tips: Preparing for an emergency at your home or place of business.

The Van Buren Fire Department is asking the residents and business owners of Van Buren Township to keep fire hydrants visible and accessible. During the recent snowfall some hydrants have become blocked by the deep snow or ice which can cause havoc on firefighters arriving on the scene of a fire.

The Van Buren Fire Department would like to request your help to remove the snow from around hydrants so they are visible and accessible. If you have a hydrant in your front yard, or elsewhere on your property, clean a 3' circle around it. During a fire, seconds count. The extra minute removing snow from around fire hydrants may save your neighbor's home or yours. If you live in a complex that has snow removed for you and you observe a buried hydrant alert your management company as soon as possible.

During routine checks and inspections our Fire Marshal's division finds many emergency exit doors blocked by snow. In preparing for an emergency all doors should be checked to make sure they can open and are not blocked by snow.

Also, keep your house numbers readily visible. The township ordinance requires your address to be visible from the roadway and it must be in a color that contrasts from the background. If you can't see your address under normal conditions the chances are we won't be able to see them during an emergency.

On behalf of the proud men and women of the Van Buren Fire Department I appreciate your help in keeping the community safe. Questions or concerns may be directed to Chief Besson at dbesson@vanburen-mi.org.

Our Mission: The members of the Van Buren Fire Department shall work together in a professional and caring way to protect life and property from the adverse effects of fire, trauma, illness and dangerous conditions. Our services will be provided in a fair, honest, and ethical manner with the highest respect and dignity to all.