

Ulster County Winter Watch

Winter is coming ● Stay Self-Reliant Help Your Neighbors

Winter Weather Terminology
from the
National Weather Service

Winter Storm Outlook – is issued prior to a Winter Storm Watch. The outlook is issued when forecasters believe winter storm conditions are possible and are usually issued 3-5 days in advance of a winter storm.

Winter Storm Watch – alerts the public to the possibility of a blizzard, heavy snow, heavy freezing rain or heavy sleet. Winter storm watches are usually issued 12-48 hours before the beginning of a winter storm. These events may occur separately or in combination.

Winter Storm Warning – is issued when hazardous winter weather in the form of heavy snow, heavy freezing rain or heavy sleet is imminent or is occurring. Winter storm warnings are usually issued 12-24 hours before the event is expected to begin.

Winter Weather Advisory – is issued for accumulations of snow, freezing rain and sleet which will cause significant inconveniences, but if sufficient caution is exercised, do not usually threaten life and property.

Wind Chill Advisory – is issued when wind chill temperatures are expected to be a significant inconvenience to life with prolonged exposure, and, if caution is not exercised, could lead to hazardous exposure.

Wind Chill Warning – is issued when wind chill temperatures are expected to be hazardous to life within several minutes of exposure.

