



TOWN OF ESTES PARK

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Beware of snow's hidden dangers

Snow and cold temperatures usually force people indoors to keep warm, but the Town of Estes Park Building Safety Division reminds residents to take extra precautions to ensure their home's safety during winter storms. Historically the heaviest snowfall occurs in the first four months of the year, with March recording the highest amounts. While local precipitation levels have been below normal, storms in the next few months could still bring heavy snowfall to the area. Homeowners should be aware of the potential damage moisture-laden snow can cause to roofs.

"Building codes address the amount of snow a roof should be designed to handle, depending on snowfall averages" said Will Birchfield, Chief Building Official. "Most newer homes are built to these codes, but older homes, especially those with flat roofs, may have been built under different codes and therefore present a greater risk of roof collapse."

Heating and dryer vents should also be cleared of snow to prevent possible carbon monoxide poisoning.

For more information or to review Estes Park's building codes, visit www.estes.org/communitydevelopment or call the Community Development Department at 970-577-3721. To receive Town news in your email inbox, please email townadmin@estes.org. For more Town news, please visit www.estes.org/news.

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