STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY
WINTER WEATHER
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How will I know of bad winter weather?
When freezing temperatures, precipitation or low wind chills are expected, the National Weather Service will issue warnings or advisories. The University Police Department Office of Emergency Management also monitors local weather and provides updates as necessary via the SB Advisory page http://www.stonybrook.edu/emergency/alerts/advisories and via Twitter http://twitter.com/sbuem.

What is freezing rain?
Rain that freezes when it hits the ground, creating a coating of ice on roads, walkways, trees, and power lines.

What is sleet?
Rain that turns to ice pellets before reaching the ground. Sleet also causes moisture on roads to freeze and become slippery.

What is a Winter Storm Watch?
A winter storm is possible in our area. The University Police Department Office of Emergency Management will post weather updates as necessary. You may also tune in to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, or television for more information.

What is a Winter Storm Warning?
A winter storm is occurring or will soon occur in our area. The University Police Department Office of Emergency Management will post weather updates as necessary. You may also tune in to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, or television for more information

What is a Blizzard Warning?
Sustained winds or frequent gusts to 35 miles per hour or greater and considerable amounts of falling or blowing snow (reducing visibility to less than a quarter mile) are expected to prevail for a period of three hours or longer.

What is a Frost/Freeze Warning?
Below freezing temperatures are expected.

What is wind chill?
Wind chill is the cooling effect due to the combination of temperature and wind. It is expressed as the loss of body heat.

How is wind chill calculated?
Use the following handy chart. Go across the top to the current temperature, then down to the current wind speed, to calculate the current wind chill. So, for example, a 30'F temperature, with a 20 mph wind, can feel like 17'F.

Temperature (F)

Wind (mph)	Calm	40	35	30	25	20	15	10	5	0	-5	-10
	5	36	31	25	19	13	7	1	-5	-11	-16	-22
	10	34	27	21	15	9	3	-4	-10	-16	-22	-28
	15	32	25	19	13	6	0	-7	-13	-19	-26	-32
	20	30	24	17	11	4	-2	-9	-15	-22	-29	-35
	25	29	23	16	9	3	-4	-11	-17	-24	-31	-37
	30	28	22	15	8	1	-5	-12	-19	-26	-33	-39
	35	28	21	14	7	0	-7	-14	-21	-27	-34	-41
	40	27	20	13	6	-1	-8	-15	-22	-29	-36	-43
	45	26	19	12	5	-2	-9	-16	-23	-30	-37	-44
	50	26	19	12	4	-3	-10	-17	-24	-31	-38	-45
	55	25	18	11	4	-3	-11	-18	-25	-32	-39	-46
	60	25	17	10	3	-4	-11	-19	-26	-33	-40	-48