

Before a Power Outage

- Build or restock your emergency preparedness kit, including a flashlight, batteries, cash and first aid supplies.
- Charge cell phones and any battery powered devices before storms hit, if possible. Have alternative charging methods for these devices.
- Know where the manual release lever of your electric garage door opener is located and how to operate it.
- Purchase ice or freeze water-filled plastic containers to help keep food cold during a temporary power outage. Have a manual can opener on hand for canned food items.
- Keep your car's gas tank full; gas stations rely on electricity to power their pumps. If you use your car to re-charge devices, do NOT keep the car running in a garage, partially enclosed space, or close to a home as this can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning.
- If you rely on anything that is battery-operated or power-dependent like a medical device, determine a back-up plan in advance.
- During cold weather, have plenty of blankets, scarves, gloves and hats on hand.
- Be sure to close the damper to your fireplace to keep warm air inside and cold air outside (during winter).

