Staying Safe during a
Power Outage

There are many things to consider during an extended power outage in your home, especially **fire and food safety.**

Here is a list of tips to help you and your loved ones stay safe.

Prince Edward Island
CANADA

FIRE AND GENERATOR SAFETY

Do not use a gas stove to heat your home.

Disconnect appliances and electronics to avoid damage from electrical surges.

Use flashlights or other battery-powered lights if possible, instead of candles.

If you must use candles, put them in safe holders away from anything that could catch fire and never leave burning candles unattended.

Portable generators should only be used outdoors *(at least five feet from the building)* and they should not be put anywhere where exhaust fumes can enter the home.

Always refuel your generator outside and allow it to cool before refueling. Follow the manufacturer's instructions.

Remember to store fuel for the generator outside the home and in approved containers.

If you have questions about generator safety, contact your local fire department.

Working smoke alarms **save lives!**

FOOD SAFETY

Keep freezers and refrigerators closed. A refrigerator will keep food cold for about four hours. A full freezer will keep the temperature for about 48 hours.

Keep food supplies that do not require refrigeration on hand.

Discard any food that has been at room temperature for two or more hours, and any food that has an obvious unusual colour or odour.

Remember, food that has gone bad does NOT always smell bad or appear spoiled.

If the food still contains ice crystals or feels refrigerator-cold, it can be re-frozen.

If raw food has leaked during thawing, clean and disinfect the areas the food has touched.

Do not reuse cloths you have used for clean-up until they have been disinfected by washing in hot water.

If power is out for more than a day, discard any medication that should be refrigerated, unless the drug's label says otherwise. If a life depends on the refrigerated drugs, consult a doctor or pharmacist.

When in **doubt**, *throw it* **out!**