How to be Safe During a Power Outage

How to Prevent Carbon Monoxide Poisoning When the Power Goes Out

**Do not!**

- **DO NOT** use portable generators inside your home, garage, carport, basement or any other enclosed space, such as a covered porch.
- **DO NOT** use charcoal or gas grills or camping stoves inside your home.
- **DO NOT** use your gas oven or stove top to heat your home.

*IMPORTANT:* Opening windows and doors, and using fans is **NOT** enough to stop a deadly buildup of carbon monoxide in your home.

**Do!**

- **DO** use gasoline-powered equipment like generators, outside only and at least 20 feet from your home.
- **DO** keep your generator away from doors, windows or air intake vents.
- **DO** make sure outside vents are not blocked with snow or leaves.
- **DO** install a CO detector.

Carbon Monoxide can kill you!
You **cannot see or smell** carbon monoxide.

Know the signs of carbon monoxide poisoning:
The signs of carbon monoxide poisoning are like the flu:

- Headache
- Tiredness
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Vomiting, or
- Loss of consciousness

IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER HAS SIGNS OF CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING
get out of the house and get medical help right away. These signs may be your only warning because you cannot see or smell carbon monoxide.

**GET OUTSIDE** and call 911 from a cell phone or from a neighbor’s home.

If you have a question about carbon monoxide poisoning dial 1-800-222 1222
or contact the Michigan Department of Community Health
at 1-800-648-6942 or go to www.michigan.gov/carbonmonoxide

Adapted from a document provided by the Connecticut Department of Public Health