Blackouts



Before the blackout...



- If you have an electric garage door opener, locate the manual release lever and learn how to operate it.

- Keep your car's gas tank at least half full; gas stations rely on electricity to power their pumps.





-Have an extra battery on hand for batteryoperated wheelchairs.

During the blackout...

- Only use a flashlight for emergency

lighting-never use candles because they increase your risk of a house fire dramatically.



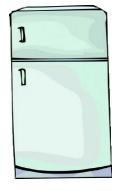


- Most cordless phones won't work if the power goes out, so be sure to have a standard telephone in your home.

Cellular phones may not operate properly during a blackout because cellular networks may lose power to the towers that transmit your call.

- Turn off electrical equipment you were using when the power went out. Leave one light on so you'll know when power returns.





- Avoid opening the refrigerator and freezer. Most medication that requires refrigeration can be kept in a closed refrigerator for several hours.

- Don't run a generator inside a home or garage or connect it to a home's electrical system. If you use



a generator, connect the equipment you want to power directly to outlets on the generator.



- Listen to a radio for the latest information.

Remember: Make sure there is a standard, corded telephone in your home. It may be the only phone that works during a blackout.



Text from "Are You Prepared?" by the Cass (ND) and Clay (MN) Emergency Planning Partnerships. Created with funding provided by Fargo Cass Public Health through the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) Adapted by Healthy Roads Media (www.healthyroadsmedia.org)