Power Outage Safety Recommendations

Pontiac, Mich., March 9, 2017 — Oakland County is currently experiencing a mass power outage due to Wednesday’s strong winds. Oakland County Health Division cautions residents to follow these tips to stay safe during this sudden loss of power:

- Use generators, pressure washers, grills, and similar items outdoors only to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Throw away food that has a temperature higher than 40°F if the power is out longer than four hours.
- Check with local authorities to be sure your water is safe.
- In cold weather, wear layers of clothing, which help to keep in body heat.
- Avoid downed power lines. If a power line falls on a car, stay inside the vehicle.
- Only use flashlights for emergency lighting. Candles can cause fires.
- Turn off or disconnect appliances and other equipment in case of a momentary power “surge” that can damage computers and other devices.

For more detailed safety recommendations and specific guidance for daycares, licensed food service establishments, private well owners, etc., visit oakgov.com/health.

Call Oakland County Environmental Health at 248-858-1312 with any questions. Follow the Health Division on Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest @publichealthOC for up-to-date information.