"If The Lights Go Out"

If you lose electrical service during the winter, follow these tips:

- Call your utility first to determine area repair schedules. Turn off or unplug lights and appliances to prevent a circuit overload when service is restored. Leave one light on to indicate power has been restored.

- To help prevent freezing pipes, turn on faucets slightly. Running water will not freeze as quickly.

- Protect yourself from carbon monoxide poisoning.
  - DO NOT operate generators indoors; the motor emits deadly carbon monoxide gas.
  - DO NOT use charcoal to cook indoors. It, too, can cause a buildup of carbon monoxide gas.
  - DO NOT use your gas oven to heat your home -- prolonged use of an open oven in a closed house can create carbon monoxide gas.

- Make sure fuel space heaters are used with proper ventilation.

- Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible to help reduce food spoilage.