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**Release Date: April 13, 2018**

**Special Weather Statement for Arnprior and being Prepared for a Power Outage**

**Arnprior, ON.** The government of Canada has issued a special weather statement for the Town of Arnprior.

*“A messy mix of snow, ice pellets and freezing rain this weekend into Monday.*

*Rain ahead of a slow moving system will begin late this afternoon and will change to snow tonight. The snow will persist into Saturday with total snowfall amounts of 10 to 15 centimeters possible over some areas by Saturday evening. Snow may be mixed with ice pellets at times which may limit the snow accumulation. A lull in the precipitation is likely Saturday night.*

*Another area of snow and ice pellets will move into the region Sunday morning before changing to freezing rain late Sunday. The freezing rain may persist into Monday. Some locales could see significant ice accumulations. Ice accumulations combined with gusty northeast winds may result in widespread power outages due to fallen tree limbs and power lines.*

*There remains uncertainty with regards to precipitation amounts and which areas will be most affected. However, there is a potential for this to be a high impact storm, particularly Sunday night into Monday.”*

In preparation for the incoming weather the Town of Arnprior would like to remind residents of how they can prepare for a power outage and some things they should consider doing during a power outage.

**Preparing for a power outage:**

- Ensure any non-electric standby stove or heater is installed and used in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions.
- If you have a wood-burning fireplace, clean the flue every fall in preparation for its use for home heating (i.e. sustained use at high temperatures). The creosote in a flue can be ignited by sustained high temperatures, and develop into a chimney fire.
- If you have a fireplace, keep a good supply of fuel on hand.
- If the standby heating unit will use the normal house oil or gas supply, have it connected with shut-off valves by a competent licensed technician.
- Before considering the use of an emergency generator during a power failure, check with furnace, appliance and lighting fixture dealers or manufacturers regarding power requirements and proper operating procedures.

- If someone in the home relies on electrically powered life sustaining equipment, register with your electric supply authority and the Renfrew County Paramedic Community Paramedic Program by calling 1 844 860 2778
- Keep an emergency kit – containing provisions for at least 72 hours – stored in an accessible place. The kit should include:
  - Water — two litres of water per person per day (include small bottles)
  - Food that won't spoil, such as canned food, energy bars and dried foods (replace once a year)
  - Manual can opener
  - Wind-up or battery-powered flashlight (and extra batteries)
  - Wind-up or battery-powered radio (and extra batteries)
  - First aid kit
  - Extra keys for your car and house
  - Cash, travellers' cheques and change
  - Important family documents such as identification, insurance and bank records
  - emergency lighting such as flashlights with spare batteries, candles, matches/lighter, or coal-oil lanterns and fuel;
  - blankets and warm clothing;

**For a more comprehensive list please visit the links below.**

### **What you should do when the power goes out:**

- Turn off all tools, appliances and electronic equipment, and turn the thermostat(s) for the home heating system down to minimum
- Leave one light switch on, so you know when power is restored.
- Don't open your freezer or fridge unless it is absolutely necessary. A full freezer will keep food frozen for 24 to 36 hours if the door remains closed.
- Don't use charcoal or gas barbecues, camping heating equipment, or home generators indoors. Fuel fired appliances can produce significant amounts of carbon monoxide which can prove to be fatal to occupants if they are not installed and used in accordance with the manufacturers instruction and applicable laws.
- Use proper candle holders. Never leave lit candles unattended.
- Use your battery-powered radio for local information.
- Remember that even in very cold weather, a house with closed doors and windows will not become too cold for comfort for several hours.

For more information on being prepared for an emergency or power outages, please visit:

<https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/yprprdnssgd/index-en.aspx>

<http://arnprior.ca/town/arnprior-fire-department/prevention/#EmergencyPreparedness>

<http://www.redcross.ca/blog/2015/1/winter-power-outages--are-you-prepared>

Please continue to monitor alerts and forecasts issued by Environment Canada at:  
<https://weather.gc.ca/warnings/>

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