

# FIRE HAZARDS



**The loss of electrical power could increase potential fire hazards in your home.**

## **Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors**

Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors hard-wired to your home's electrical supply will not work if the power is disconnected unless they have battery back-ups. Find out what type of alarms you have in your home and ensure you are protected by battery-operated alarms.

## **Carbon Monoxide**

**Carbon monoxide, a deadly and odourless gas that is created when fuels like gasoline, wood, coals, natural gas, propane or oil, burn incompletely.**

- NEVER use barbecues, portable generators, propane heaters or kerosene heaters **indoors**. When used outdoors, make sure they are far enough away from all doors and windows to ensure that combustion gases do not enter the home.
- You can safely cook **outside** on a briquette or propane fuelled barbeque or camping stove.

## **Fires**

- Only light a fire in an approved fire place or wood stove.
- Do not use candles for lighting. Due to the extreme fire risk, flashlights are much safer.
- Ensure all matches and lighters are not accessible to children.

## **Even though the power is off:**

- Turn off or unplug any appliances, computers or electronics.
- Make sure the oven and stove elements are OFF. Never store materials on the stove top.
- Keep all combustible materials, like dish cloths, paper towels, wooden or plastic items, a safe distance from your stove.

Fires often start when the power is turned back on and combustibles are too close to a stove or heater that was left ON.