

# COOKING WITHOUT POWER

Cooking meals without electricity or gas lines can be difficult and may be hazardous.

## PREVENTING CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

- **NEVER use charcoal or gas grills indoors.** Using a grill indoors can cause carbon monoxide poisoning or could start a fire and destroy your home
- **Camp stoves** that use gasoline or solid fuel should always be used outdoors

## ALTERNATIVE HEATING METHODS

- **Small electrical appliances** can be used to prepare meals if you have access to an electrical generator
- **Wood can be used in a fireplace** if the chimney is sound. Do not use a fireplace with a broken chimney. Be sure the damper is open
- **If cooking on a wood stove**, be sure the stove pipe is not damaged
- **If you are building a fire outdoors**, move away from buildings. Never start a fire in a carport. Sparks can travel into the ceiling and start a house fire

## FIRE SAFETY WHEN COOKING

- **Make sure any fire is well-contained**
  - Use a metal drum or stones around the fire bed
  - Use a charcoal grill to build a wood fire
  - Put out any fire when finished

## IF COOKING IS NOT POSSIBLE

- **If cooking is not possible**, many canned foods can be eaten cold

## MORE INFORMATION

 [preparedness.health.maryland.gov](http://preparedness.health.maryland.gov)

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*Information is derived from facts developed by Clemson Cooperative Extension.*



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