Community Encouraged to Warm Homes Safely and Be a Good Neighbor

In response to the loss of power and continued cold weather conditions, community members are reminded to stay warm safely. If house is without heat do the following:

- Use alternate heat source such as wood stove or fireplace. **But avoid using any device not designed for heating a home or space.**
- Be careful of fire danger when using candles
- Generators or other devices powered by fuel that cause fumes should be placed outside the house to ensure safety.
- Use just one or two rooms. Close off the rest of house.
- Hang blankets over windows. Fill cracks around doors with rugs or newspapers.
- Wear hats, especially when sleeping.

**Use Caution:** Take extra precautions when using alternative power and heat sources during inclement weather. Use only listed and labeled equipment. Never leave such items unattended. Read and follow all manufacturers’ instructions. The use of gas appliances, such as generators, grills and bullet heaters increase the number of carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon monoxide is known as the “silent killer”, it is an invisible, odorless, tasteless gas. Exposure to carbon monoxide may cause headache, dizziness, fatigue, weakness, nausea, vomiting, impaired vision, loss of consciousness and death. Battery operated carbon monoxide detectors are recommended. Make sure alternative heat sources are approved for indoor use. Pay special attention to clearance and ventilation requirements.

**BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR:** In addition, the City is encouraging people to be good neighbors. Those who are aware of a neighbor who is without power and may be vulnerable are encouraged to check on their safety and well-being if it is safe.
to do so. Those without power for an extended period are encouraged to shelter with family or friends who do have power. Local hotels are also an option for shelter.

Lane County Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) is available to provide assistance to vulnerable community members who may need help during this cold weather event. COAD can be reached at 541-246-4664.

COAD includes broad array of community organizations that work to foster an effective response to the people of Lane County in times of disaster. More information on COAD is available at www.preparelane.org. Please only call 9-1-1 if you have an immediate emergency or hazard. If you need Public Works assistance, call Public Works at 541-682-4800. To report a power outage, call EWEB at 541-484-2300.

All City of Eugene libraries and recreation community centers are available during normal operating hours for warming and cell phone charging.

Egan Warming Centers have been activated for December 16, 2016. The centers are a coalition of community members representing service providers, religious congregations, nonprofit support agencies, social activist communities and local government who have come together to ensure that homeless people in Lane County have a warm and safe place to sleep when temperatures drop below 30 degrees. For the full list of sites that will be active please visit the Egan Warming center website: http://www.eganwarmingcenter.com/.

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