FREE PRINTABLE RESOURCE

WOOD STOVE AND FIREPLACE OUTAGE CARD

Running a wood stove or fireplace when the power is out. Your manufacturer's instructions and local fire codes come first.

BEFORE THE SEASON

- ☐ **Chimney inspected and cleaned by a pro**
  Every year; CSIA certified sweep or NFI technician
- ☐ **Chimney cap checked**
  Keeps out obstructions and downdrafts
- ☐ **Smoke and CO alarms installed and tested**
- ☐ **Fire extinguisher on hand**
  And everyone knows how to use it
- ☐ **Pellet stove? Check how it runs without power**
  Most need electricity to operate

EVERY FIRE

- ☐ **3 feet clear around the stove or fireplace**
  Furniture, wood basket, curtains, kids
- ☐ **Dry, split, seasoned wood only**
  No trash, cardboard, treated or painted wood
- ☐ **No gasoline, kerosene or charcoal starter**
  Dry kindling or natural fire starters
- ☐ **Stove doors closed except to load**
  Screen in front of an open fireplace
- ☐ **Hot fire, not a smolder**
- ☐ **Fire out before sleep or leaving home**
  Never heat the house with the oven

ASHES

- ☐ **Cooled and dampened**
- ☐ **Metal can with a lid, used only for ashes**
- ☐ **Outside on a surface that can't burn**
  USFA: at least 10 feet from the house

SMELL SMOKE?

- ☐ **Shut down the stove, open a window**
- ☐ **Make sure the flue is open**
- ☐ **Call a sweep or stove installer**

CHIMNEY FIRE SIGNS

- ☐ **Loud roar, sucking sounds, shaking pipes**
  Cracking and popping, intense hot smell
- ☐ **Hot spots on the wall or chimney**
  Smoke in the house

IF IT HAPPENS

- ☐ **Shut off the fire's air supply**
- ☐ **Get everyone out**
- ☐ **Call 911 from a cell or a neighbor's phone**
  Have the chimney inspected before reuse

Want the reasoning and the sources behind each line? Read the full guide on the TacticalBox blog.
tacticalbox.com/blogs/tacticalbox-blog

Sources: U.S. Fire Administration heating page and fireplace and wood stove card; EPA Burn Wise (best practices, installation and maintenance, FAQ); Portland Fire & Rescue; Washington State Fire Marshal; Chimney Safety Institute of America; American Red Cross. Call 911 in an emergency.