

Collins View article for the APRIL 2021 SW News

Collins View Neighborhood Association Zoom meetings are scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month, except July and August. Our next meeting is Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Please contact outreach@collinsview.org for details.

The "Power's Out" Valentine Experience

The Valentine storm shredded the Collins View tree canopy into lace as transformers exploded with flash-bangs and trees toppled with continual crack-thuds. Cars were in the ditches, (one with TWO trees on top of it) but no major pileups on our icy streets. We had ample warning about the storm and the likely loss of power, heat, and internet. Even so, complaints loomed large in Nextdoor discussions, as discomforts mounted after 36 hours without power.

See ICY STREET MAP below.

Streets were bad. See the whole ICY STREET MAP here: collinsview.org/icystreets.html

Don't turn inconvenience into tragedy! Comfort is the Goal, but Safety is the Rule!

NO POWER? Set up and test your generator if you have one. Fuel needs to be On Site, not at the gas station. Do not electrocute a lineworker by jacking your generator's power into your electrical panel. Understand the instructions ahead of time! **Use Generators and combustion devices only OUTDOORS. Camp stoves, propane heaters and generators generate Carbon Monoxide which can be fatal in closed spaces, like in your garage.**

NO LIGHTS? Your garage and basement will be very dark. Flashlights cut the dark, but hands-free headlamps make it safer and easier to find things, read directions and maintain a good attitude. Improvise! A flashlight or headlamp shining through a water jug can light up a room. Prepare dinner by daylight, then dine by candlelight.

BE PREPARED! Have your supplies HANDY. Stack up your quilts and your supplies. Fully charge all portable rechargers and cellphones. Keep spare batteries on hand. Invest in utility grade candles. Do laundry, wash the dishes, take a shower. Pile up fire wood right by a door so you don't have to trek to get it.

AVOID SPOILAGE. You can use a cooler so that your fridge can stay closed but you can still access the essentials. Cool with snow or ice! Food in your fridge and freezer is not safe above 40 degrees. A couple of \$3.00 freezer & fridge thermometers can eliminate the guesswork of whether you should you 'toss it or eat it'.

MORE TO COME. Experts on climate change caution that cold icy storms could become common in the years ahead (OPB, 2/17/2021). Same with drought, fires, and floods. An unpredictable earthquake event will have repercussions MUCH longer than 36 hours. There will be additional challenges including lack of water and the possibility of unsafe (not just uncomfortable) shelter to consider.

LOOK AHEAD: The Preppers' Litany of essential safe preparations, procedures, supplies, gadgets and tips will be publicized by our NET teams.

THE SHAKE ALERT is intended deliver earthquake alerts to wireless devices. The rollout of this warning system is scheduled in Oregon on March 11, 2021.

Submitted by M. Read & J. Miller

Icy Street Map inserted below.

Collins View Icy Streets

12 / 21 / 2019

- DANGER
- CAUTION
- JUDGEMENT
- unimproved ROW

