

FACTS



ALTERNATE HEAT

When a household heating system fails, alternate temporary heating sources are often necessary. Adequate air exchange and safety precautions are needed to ensure a safe heating supply.

Air Quality - Provide Adequate Ventilation

Gas stoves, wood stoves, fireplaces and unvented heaters all produce a variety of gases that are a health risk if allowed to build up in living spaces. They also deplete available oxygen in a poorly ventilated home.

If using one of these units, open a window in the area and leave it open while the unit is in operation.

Safety Requirements - Follow All Operating Instructions

Always follow manufacturer's instructions regarding proper ventilation, recommended clearances for combustible material, and safe operating practices. Ensure that chimneys are structurally sound and clean prior to using wood stoves or fireplaces. Kerosene heaters must be used only for temporary heating and turned off when people are sleeping or a room is left empty for some time. Young children must be strictly supervised and never left alone in a room with a temporary heating source. Use the proper fuels for the heating unit. For example, naphtha or gasoline must **never** be used in a kerosene heater as explosion and fire may result.

Fuel Storage - Store Fuel Safely

Alternate heating fuels such as kerosene and methanol must be stored in properly labeled containers. Label them "**Poison/Flammable**" and indicate the type of fuel. Store the fuels in a safe area out of the reach of children.