

GET YOUR CHILD CARE PROGRAM READY FOR DARK NIGHTS/COLD WEATHER

Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery



PRACTICE emergency drills after-hours with staff before a storm hits. This way, if you need to evacuate during the night, everyone is well-prepared.



TEACH staff how to turn off utilities that might freeze, such as pipes.



HAVE an updated list of telephone numbers for utility providers, police, fire, and emergency contacts.



OUTLINE procedures for delayed openings, closings, and early dismissals.



HAVE a battery-powered radio available **TO RECEIVE** local bulletins if the power goes out.

IDENTIFY alternative locations in case you and the children need to evacuate or relocate during a winter storm or prolonged power outage.



Winter Weather May Alter Your Schedule



If you need to shelter-in-place during a storm, **MAKE SURE TO HAVE** plenty of toys, games, books, puzzles, batteries, and blankets to keep children safe and warm.



FIND OUT in advance which staff members can stay for long periods if a shelter-in-place event happens.



SOOTHE CHILDREN with their favorite foods and coloring books, and take time to listen to their worries.



If children are staying overnight, **ASSURE THEM** that their parents will be coming to get them as soon as they can.



PREPARE a shelter-in-place emergency kit. Make sure there is enough food, water, rock salt, snow shovels, snow removal equipment, clean linens, and diapers to keep children safe for 72 hours.