

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE - UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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consumer radio briefs

December 21, 1973

Alternative Heat Sources

(0:30)

University of Minnesota extension specialists offer this tip for emergency preparedness this winter:

Determine what resources you have in your home now, before a fuel crisis occurs. What other heating devices are used or stored in your home, garage or barn? It may be a fireplace, which is very inefficient in heating a home. You may have a wood, coal, gas or oil stove or space heater.

A camping stove might heat a small room. Electric or gas ovens and surface heating units could provide heat for a while. A portable electric heater would warm a small space.

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Listing Fuels

(0:20)

List emergency fuels in your home or within a reasonable distance. They may include oil, kerosene, coal, firewood, lumber, corncobs, campstove fuel, charcoal, newspapers and magazines.

If your heating device and fuel can be matched, would they provide enough heat to warm at least one room in your home? Is there enough fuel for several days? Do you have a secondary source of emergency heat?

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Preparation

(0:16)

You'll probably have to make some changes in your home or in your heating system to accommodate another heating device in case your heating system fails.

If you can't make them, call in someone who can. Any device that burns fuel must be vented outside the house to eliminate smoke and gas and to provide oxygen for combustion.

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