Emergency Message - Temporary Mass Care Facility Activated

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: December 7, 2013
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CITY EXPERIENCES POWER OUTAGE MASS CARE FACILITY ACTIVATED

GREAT FALLS, Montana – Starting at approximately 3:30 a.m. this morning (Saturday, December 7) the City of Great Falls began experiencing sporadic power outages affecting the southwest areas of town. The outage is caused by the extreme cold temperatures; the National Weather Service in Great Falls reported temperatures of -34 degrees this morning. Recognizing the severity of the issue, Northwestern Energy is working to bring power back on soon as possible. Residents are asked to shelter in place if possible, find shelter with family and friends who have heat and for those who need assistance a temporary mass care facility has been set-up at the Pacific Steel Arena (Four Seasons Arena).

The Pacific Steel Arena is located at the Great Falls Fair Grounds (400 3rd Street NW) and the temporary mass care facility will be staffed by Red Cross and will have heat and bathrooms available for residents. Those in the affected area needing assistance getting to the facility should contact 771-1180. Due to the limited space, residents are being asked to leave their pets at home.

City and County officials activated the Emergency Operations Center early this morning to evaluate the issue and to develop a plan of action for the residents of Great Falls and Cascade County.

To prepare for a future power outage or to learn more about winter emergencies visit the City's website, www.greatfallsmt.net or http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/.

For more information about the City's response to the power outage contact Jennifer Reichelt at 778-9172.

UPDATE The following local facilities have agreed to take animals with proof of vaccinations:

- F&L - 406-452-6828
- Happy Tails 406-205-8404
- April's Plush Puppies 406-771-6692
- Pet Palace - 406-454-3100
- Big Sky Animal Medical Clinic - 406-761-8387
- Best Friends Animal Hospital - 406-453-2200

Supporting Documents

Press Release - Mass Care Facility Activated (294 KB) (PDF)

Source URL (retrieved on *07/12/2014 - 7:26pm*):
http://www.greatfallsmt.net/fire/emergency-message-temporary-mass-care-facility-activated