

**Philadelphia Immunization Program
SPECIAL DELIVERY**

**The Philadelphia Department of Public Health
Division of Disease Control**

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• **Preparation in Case of Power Outage**

Please Note: VFC and VFAAR vaccine deliveries are stopped for Friday, Monday, and Tuesday, and are expected to resume on Wednesday, August 31st.

Hurricane Irene is expected to affect the Philadelphia area this weekend, possibly causing power outages. In order to minimize potential loss of vaccine, please make sure your emergency plans for power outages are up-to-date and follow the directions below.

Prior to close of business on Friday:

- If you have access to a refrigerator/freezer connected to a back-up generator, please move vaccines to this location (follow proper storage and handling practices, "Philadelphia Standards for Vaccine Storage and Handling" found at <https://kids.phila.gov/vfc.aspx> under the section *Other VFC Program Resources*)
- If you **do not** have access to generator back up, please do the following:
 - ❖ Place full water bottles in refrigerators containing vaccine to help maintain temperatures in case of a power outage over the weekend
 - ❖ Place ice packs in freezers where Varicella containing vaccines are stored
 - ❖ Make sure all refrigerators and freezers are plugged in
 - ❖ Completely seal tight all refrigerators and freezers
 - ❖ Take full inventory of your VFC and VFAAR vaccines (you will need this information if you lose power)

If a power outage occurs over the weekend:

- **DO NOT** open refrigerators when you return to the office
- Immediately take the temperature of every unit (temperatures can be found **outside** of the units)
- Fill out the VFC Emergency Response Worksheet and fax to 215-238-6948
- If you **DO** experience a power outage over the weekend, **please fax** VFC Emergency Response Worksheets to PDPH by Monday, August 29th, at noon.

