



**REGIONAL DISTRICT
NORTH OKANAGAN**

TIP Sheet: Managing Fridges and Freezers After Extended Power Outage

If you experienced prolonged power outage from an event such as a wildfire, your fridge and freezer and its contents will likely be a priority upon returning to your home.

Emptying and Cleaning Out Your Fridge and or Freezer

Interior Health has provided guidance on managing food, appliances and insurance on pages 7-8 on the document:

<https://www.interiorhealth.ca/sites/default/files/PDFS/returning-to-your-home-after-wildfires.pdf>

For food that needs to be discarded, double line garbage bags or use thicker contractor bags, if possible, to contain liquids and dispose as regular garbage.

Use paper towels or rags to wipe up spills and leaks from food and dispose of them with the food waste.

Cleaning Information for Working Fridges/Freezers

If your fridge or freezer was not damaged and continues to work, follow the cleaning steps provided in the Interior Health document provided above.

Recycling Damaged/Non-Working Fridges/Freezers

If your refrigerator or freezer is damaged and is not working, check with your insurance company about coverage and claim documentation requirements.

Residential fridges and freezers that are emptied are accepted for free recycling at Greater Vernon Landfill. Please ensure any spills or leaks from fridge/freezer contents are wiped up or rinsed out to prevent odours that attract animals.

For more information, please contact the RDNO Solid Waste Operations Office at 250-550-3785.