

## Power Outage: Start Here

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**Do this first: check people before appliances.** Anyone on powered medical equipment, oxygen, refrigerated medicine, mobility equipment, an elevator, heat, or AC? Check them now.

- Every phone on low-power mode.
- One short text: *Power is out here. We're okay / need help. I'll update at \_\_\_\_.*
- Report or check the outage once. Then stop refreshing.
- Fridge and freezer closed. Open once only if you must.
- Hold the house's temperature: close curtains, doors, unused rooms.
- On a well? Fill a few clean containers while water still runs.
- Unplug sensitive electronics. Leave one light on.
- Check one nearby person who may not ask.

### IF THIS HAPPENS, DO THIS

- **Medical power problem:** call the device supplier, healthcare team, utility medical line if enrolled, local non-emergency line, or 911 as needed.
- **Too hot or too cold:** move earlier than you want to. Do not wait until someone is already sick.
- **Thinking about a generator, grill, stove, or heater:** do not bring fuel-burning equipment indoors, into a garage, or near windows or vents. Carbon monoxide is the danger.
- **Food question:** keep doors closed now. Decide later by time, temperature, and food-safety guidance.
- **Downed line, sparks, gas smell, or flooding near electrical equipment:** stay away and call for help.

**Stop and get help if** someone's body, breathing, medication, mobility, or safe temperature depends on power and there is no working backup plan.

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*The first hour of a power outage is the hour you'll wish you had spent on the next twelve.*

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