

# Be prepared for a power outage

Extended power outages may impact the whole community

We often forget how much we depend on electricity.  
Here are some things you should consider:



May disrupt  
communications,  
water, transportation



May close retail businesses,  
grocery stores, gas stations,  
ATMs and other services



Can cause food spoilage,  
water contamination



Can prevent use of  
medical devices

## HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS DURING A POWER OUTAGE



### KEEP FREEZERS AND REFRIGERATORS CLOSED.

The refrigerator will keep food cold for about four hours. A full freezer will keep the temperature for about 48 hours. Use coolers with ice if necessary. Monitor temperatures with a thermometer.



### TURN OFF OR DISCONNECT APPLIANCES, EQUIPMENT OR ELECTRONICS.

Power may return with momentary “surges” or “spikes” that may cause damage.



### USE ALTERNATE PLANS FOR REFRIGERATING MEDICINES OR POWER-DEPENDENT MEDICAL DEVICES.

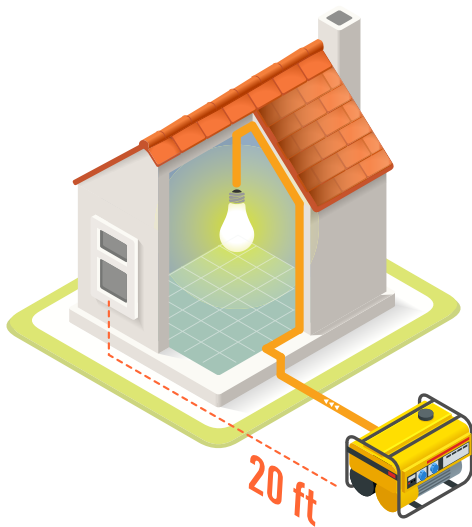


### USE FOOD SUPPLIES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE REFRIGERATION.



### GO TO A COMMUNITY LOCATION WITH POWER WHEN HEAT OR COLD IS EXTREME (IF IT IS SAFE TO DO SO).





### **AVOID CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING.**

Generators, camp stoves or charcoal grills should always be used outdoors and at least 20 feet away from windows. Never use a gas stovetop or oven to heat your home.



### **CHECK ON YOUR NEIGHBORS.**

Older adults and young children are especially vulnerable to extreme temperatures.

## **HOW TO BE SAFE AFTER A POWER OUTAGE**

### **WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT.**

Throw away any food that has been exposed to temperatures 40 degrees or higher for two hours or more, or that has an unusual odor, color or texture.



### **IF THE POWER IS OUT FOR MORE THAN A DAY, DISCARD ANY MEDICATION THAT SHOULD BE REFRIGERATED (UNLESS THE DRUG'S LABEL SAYS OTHERWISE).**

If a life depends on the refrigerated drugs, consult a doctor or pharmacist and use medicine only until a new supply is available.



**TO LEARN MORE WAYS TO PREPARE FOR AN OUTAGE, PLEASE VISIT [FEMA.GOV](https://www.fema.gov)**



In order to keep communities safe, PG&E may need to turn off power when extreme weather or wildfire conditions are forecast. This statewide initiative is called **Public Safety Power Shutoff**.

To learn more about Public Safety Power Shutoff events and how to prepare for power outages, visit [prepareforpowerdown.com](https://prepareforpowerdown.com).