

# PREPARING FOR A POWER OUTAGE



## What should you be doing?

Loss of power may last hours or days



May disrupt communications, water, transportation



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



Can cause food spoilage, water contamination



Can prevent use of medical devices

### BEFORE



Register to receive emergency alerts from the Community Warning System at <https://cwsalerts.com/registration/>



Update your contact information with PG&E [www.pge.com/en\\_US/safety](http://www.pge.com/en_US/safety)



Take an inventory of the items you use that rely on electricity

Plan for your family and pet medical needs



Keep mobile phones charged



Identify backup charging methods for phones and electronics

Store water and non-perishable food



Install home carbon monoxide detectors with battery backups



Know how to use the manual release on your garage door



Keep gas tanks full



### DURING

Keep freezers and refrigerators closed



Monitor freezer and refrigerator temperatures with a thermometer

Use perishable food supplies first



Use generators, stoves and grills outdoors away from windows



Disconnect appliances and electronics to avoid damage

Check on neighbors, animals, and family

### AFTER



When in doubt, throw it out! Throw away food exposed to temperatures above 39 degrees for more than two hours



Check with your pharmacist about refrigerated medications

# Emergency kit suggestions

*You know best what you will need*

- Neighborhood map with local resources
- Battery-powered or hand-crank NOAA Weather Radio
- Portable generator
- CO2 detector
- Method for cooking food without electricity
- Surge protectors for appliances and devices
- Consider keeping cash on hand in case  
ATM and credit cards cannot be used
- Flashlight, extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags, hand sanitizer
- Cell phone with backup powerpack
- Medicine, medical equipment
- Important documents
- 1 gallon per person per day of water
- A week of non-perishable food
- Pet supplies



*Start here*

## Get Prepared

### HAVE A PLAN

**What will you do?**

### MAKE A KIT

**What do you need?**

### STAY INFORMED

**What is your plan for getting information?**

### KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS

**Share plans and resources**

***For more information visit***

- [Ready.gov](http://Ready.gov)
- [CalOES.ca.gov](http://CalOES.ca.gov)
- [Cchealth.org](http://Cchealth.org)
- [Fire.ca.gov](http://Fire.ca.gov)



**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY  
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**