



Tips for Dealing with Power Outages

Here are a few recommendations to help you during an electric service interruption:

1. If you rely on **Life Support Devices** you may want to consider the following:
 - a. Install an Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) on the necessary life support equipment.
 - b. Obtain portable oxygen tanks as back-up.
 - c. Find alternate shelter at a location not affected by the outage.
2. **Water and Sewer Service will NOT be affected during this outage.**
3. **Electronic Equipment** is particularly sensitive to electric power outages. We recommend unplugging this equipment before the outage period. You should also consider installing a surge protector on sensitive equipment.
4. **Cordless Home Phones** will not operate during an electric power outage.
5. **Automatic Garage Doors** require electricity. It is recommended you remove your vehicle prior to the outage. Become familiar with the door's manual release to unlock and open your garage door.
6. **Security Systems, Clocks, Irrigation Timers**, and similar equipment will likely require resetting after the outage is completed.
7. **Night Outages:** Have on hand battery-powered flashlights with fresh batteries.
8. **Food Safety:** During any outage, keep the doors of your refrigerator and freezer closed to help keep food fresh. The U.S. Department of Agriculture states that your freezer should keep food frozen for at least 24 hours, and that refrigerated food should stay safe for up to four hours. If the outage is expected to last longer, you should take additional measures now to prepare. This includes filling a few empty liter-size bottles with water and freezing them, putting them into the refrigerator the day of the outage to keep food cool. As always, before you prepare or eat food that was refrigerated or frozen, check it carefully for signs of spoilage. More information can be found at www.fsis.usda.gov.