

Be prepared for unforeseen power outages

Handy items



Flashlight



Battery-powered radio



Extra batteries



Bottled water



Battery-powered or wind-up alarm clock



Manual can opener

Other items to have: paper plates, plastic utensils, standard phone or cell phone, first-aid kit, non-perishable food items, medications, blankets, bedding or sleeping bags, phone numbers of law enforcement offices and emergency management agencies.

What to do if your power goes out:

1 Check your fuse or breaker box for blown fuses or tripped breakers. If they're okay, see if neighbors are without power.



2 Call immediately. You will be asked for information about the outage.

3 Turn off all electrical equipment and appliances that were on when the outage occurred to help avoid damage when power is restored.

4 Listen to the radio (battery-powered, also have back-up batteries) for updates on major storms or check for outage information on South Central Power Online.

5 If your lights are very dim or too bright once power is restored, turn off the power at the breaker or fuse box and call.

Downed power line safety

- Call immediately if you see any downed power lines. Stay back and keep kids and pets away.
- If a power line falls across your vehicle, do not get out! Wait for help to arrive.
- If a power line is touching someone, stay away – you cannot help them. Call 911 for help.



South Central Power Company

To report an outage: 1-877-OUTAGES (1-877-688-2437) or online @ www.southcentralpower.com

What causes power outages?

Despite South Central Power's best efforts, outages can occur. Common causes include:



Trees



Digging



Lightning



Animals and Birds



Auto Accidents



Equipment Failure

Around the house

- **Never use candles!** Always use a flashlight or non-electric lamp.
- **Have a back-up plan to move a seriously ill person** to a warm and safe place. South Central Power does NOT guarantee uninterrupted service to homes where serious medical conditions exist.
- **Cordless phones** won't work during an outage. Have a standard or cellular phone as a backup.



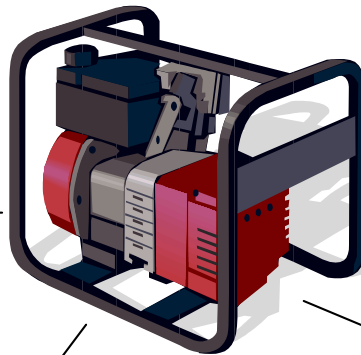
- **Protect your pipes.** If the power is out and the weather is freezing, open faucets and wrap pipes to prevent damage.
- **Automatic garage door openers** won't work if the power is out. Check to see if you have a manual override.
- **Your freezer** will keep food frozen during an outage for about two days if it's full, one day if it's less than full. Don't open the door.
- **Regularly back-up computer files** so information is not lost, or install a UPS system by Liebert (see Products section on SCP Online).

Generator Safety

Make sure your generator operates outside in a well-ventilated area.

Do not attach a generator to your fuse or breaker panel; you must install a transfer switch, such as GenerLink (see Products section on SCP Online).

Use the right size, three-prong, grounded extension cords in good working order sized correctly for the load.



Follow your generator's operating manual carefully.

Let the engine cool before you refuel.

Specific Information for People with Disabilities

1. If a family member depends on medical life support equipment, a back-up generator is important to consider in case of an extended power outage.
2. If you use a motorized wheelchair or scooter, have an extra battery. If available, store a lightweight manual wheelchair for backup.
3. If you have a visual disability, store a talking or Braille clock or large-print timepiece with extra batteries.
4. If you have hearing loss, consider getting a small portable battery-operated television set. Emergency broadcasts may give information in American Sign Language or open captioning.

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