

# BE PREPARED FOR A POWER OUTAGE

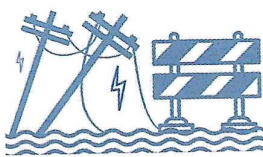
Extended power outages may impact the whole community and the economy.



FEMA

FEMA V-1008/May 2018

A power outage is when the electrical power goes out unexpectedly.



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

## PROTECT YOURSELF DURING A POWER OUTAGE

Keep freezers and refrigerators closed.



Disconnect appliances and electronics to avoid damage from electrical surges.

Only use generators outdoors and away from windows.



Use alternate plans for refrigerating medicines or power-dependent medical devices.

Do not use a gas stove to heat your home.



If safe, go to an alternate location for heat or cooling.



Check on neighbors.

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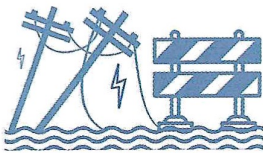
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# What is a Public Safety Power Shutoff?

If extreme weather conditions threaten our ability to safely operate the electrical grid, we may turn off power in certain high-risk areas. This safety measure is called a Public Safety Power Shutoff, or PSPS.

We consider many factors when we're deciding whether a PSPS is necessary, including:



High winds



Low humidity levels



Dry vegetation



Real-time observations from the field



Temperature



Red Flag Warning



Collaboration with local, state and regional agencies

Because Public Safety Power Shutoffs can last multiple days, it's important that we're all prepared and you have an emergency plan in place.

## How we prepare for wildfires year-round

We take extra precautions to protect people, property and natural environments. Every year, we look at our service areas and assess the need for enhanced tree and brush clearing. We modify or replace equipment where needed to increase fire resistance and reduce the risk of an ignition.

## Here's what you can expect

If we need to activate a PSPS, we work to minimize the number of people impacted and the length of time without power.

### KEEPING YOU INFORMED

Before, during and after a PSPS, we'll provide information and updates about what's happening in many ways. Be sure to update your contact information with us so we can stay in communication.

### SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES

During a PSPS, our Community Resource Centers will provide information, water, charging for electronic devices and Wi-Fi access.

### RESTORING YOUR POWER SAFELY

When it's safe to do so, our crews visually inspect our lines and equipment mile-by-mile for damage and make necessary repairs, working as quickly as safety allows to restore power. Take a look at our graphic on the back to see what steps we take to get your power back on safely.

You can find more at [portlandgeneral.com/wildfireoutages](http://portlandgeneral.com/wildfireoutages).

# Build your PSPS outage kit



Depending on weather conditions and other factors, a Public Safety Power Shutoff, which is always a last-resort safety measure, could last several hours or multiple days.

You should have enough supplies to sustain your family for at least three days. We recommend placing items in waterproof and rodent-proof containers and replenishing your kit at least once a year.

- Flashlights or headlamps
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio
- Battery-powered clock or watch
- Battery-powered or handheld fans
- Extra batteries
- Cell phones and chargers, including a car charger
- Water, one gallon per person per day, especially if you rely on an electric pump for water
- Nonperishable food and a can opener, pots, pans and utensils
- Frozen cold packs or water bags/bottles to keep food and medicine cold until you can get ice
- Portable cooler
- Extra batteries for oxygen tanks or other medical equipment
- Board games, books and playing cards
- Outdoor barbecue, gas grill or camp stove, plus fuel and a lighter or matches

## Emergency kit items that might also be useful

- Evacuation-ready items like keys, purse or wallet, glasses, ID, passports, birth certificates, insurance information, financial records, and a paper map of your area
- Hard copies of your Family Emergency Plan and contact lists
- Glasses, dentures, hearing aids, etc.
- Prescription and over-the-counter medicine, medical equipment and supplies like extra oxygen
- Infant supplies, formula and/or food, diapers and cleansing wipes
- Pet supplies, collar with ID tags and leash/carrier, food and water, sanitation items (i.e. litter), and medications
- Personal hygiene supplies, wipes, soap, shampoo/conditioner, brush/comb, toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, feminine supplies, and sunscreen
- First aid kit, first aid book, antiseptics, adhesive bandages, gauze, adhesive tape, ace bandages, splints, eye wash solution, cold packs, and burn gel
- Clothing, shoes/boots, summer-weight jackets, work gloves, extra undies and socks
- Pillows and blankets or sleeping bags
- Paper goods and sanitation supplies, paper plates, paper towels, toilet paper, and trash bags
- Dust/face masks, sunglasses, and rubber gloves
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities and a knife or multi-purpose tool
- Whistle to signal for help
- Duct tape, twine, paper and a marker for leaving notes or labeling your items

## Help your device battery last

- Don't turn it off – your tablet or phone uses more battery when being turned off and on, so use sleep mode instead.
- Manually disable Bluetooth and notifications you don't need (leave emergency notifications on). Turn Wi-Fi off when not needed.
- Turn the brightness of the display down as low as possible.
- Close apps when you're done using them.

# Make a plan for extended outages



- Plan for household needs, which are different in summer than during a winter outage.
  - Gather what you'll need to stay cool, fed and hydrated.
  - Always keep ice packs or jugs/bags of water in your freezer so you can keep food cold until you can get ice.
- Plan for the needs of pets and livestock
  - Make a plan for feeding and watering if well pumps don't have power.
- Plan for medical needs so you can still power medical equipment during an outage.
  - Enroll in our **Medical Certificate program**—this lets us know where there are critical needs so we can proactively communicate with you about outages.
- Plan ahead to relocate with a friend, family member or to a shelter if needed.
- Plan how you'll work or learn from home during an outage. Plan ahead to relocate if needed.
- Consider buying a backup generator and follow manufacturers' guidelines for safe operation.
- If you have solar panels, consider adding **battery storage**.

## Plan for wildfires and possible evacuation

Get more information from the **National Fire Protection Association**, the **Red Cross** and **ready.gov** on how to keep your family and your home safe.

- Create a line of defense—clear flammable trees and plants away from your home.
- Plan your evacuation route if needed (see your county's evacuation guide) and keep your car fueled.
- Gather hard copies of what you need in an evacuation, like ID and passports, financial records, insurance information, legal records, birth certificates and social security cards.

## Know what you own

Take photos of every room in your home, including your garage and shed, so you have an inventory of your belongings if you need to make an insurance claim. Open cupboards, closets and drawers and take photos of each.

## Resources

- [redcross.org/wildfire](https://www.redcross.org/wildfire)
- [wildfire.oregon.gov](https://www.wildfire.oregon.gov)
- [ready.gov/wildfire](https://www.ready.gov/wildfire)
- [National Fire Protection Association  
nfpa.org/public-education](https://www.nfpa.org/public-education)
- [211info.org](https://www.211info.org)

