



POWER OUTAGE PREPAREDNESS

PG&E is coordinating **Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS)**, which would preemptively shut down power, in an effort to keep communities safe during extreme weather threats that increase the risk of wildfires. To help prepare follow these tips before, during and after an outage occurs.

BEFORE A POWER OUTAGE

- Create a safety plan and discuss it with all members of your family.
- Prepare an emergency kit with water, nonperishable food, batteries, a flashlight, a battery or crank radio, a charged phone, first aid kit, medications, and cash to last at least **1 week**.
- Plan for your medical needs, including medications that need to be refrigerated, and power dependent devices.
- Fill containers with water and place them in a refrigerator or freezer. This chilled or frozen water will help keep food cold.
- If planning to use a generator, make sure it can operate in a well ventilated area.
- Keep your gas tank at least half full as gas stations rely on electricity to power their pumps.

AFTER A POWER OUTAGE

- When in doubt, throw it out. Throw away food that has been exposed to temperatures above 40 °F for two hours or more, if it 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 label says otherwise.
- Check in on elderly or handicapped neighbors to make sure that they are OK.

DURING A POWER OUTAGE

- If refrigerator doors are kept closed, it can keep food cold for about 4 hours, and the freezer for about 48 hours. To avoid spoilage, consider using coolers with ice to keep food cold and safe.
- Water service may be disrupted due to pumps not being able to operate. To limit water interruptions, water usage should be drastically decreased.
 - Cut showers short. Limit them to 5 minutes or less.
 - Don't let faucets run needlessly as you wash your hands or face, brush your teeth, or rinse your dishes.
 - Flush with less water by sinking a half gallon jug of water in the toilet tank.
 - Don't use the dishwasher.
 - Turn off your sprinkler system.
- Turn off or disconnect your appliances and electronics. Power may return with momentary surges that can cause damage.
- Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Generators, camp stoves, or charcoal grills should not be used inside your home or garage.
- Never use gas stovetop or oven to heat your home.
- Go to a community location with power if heat or cold is extreme.

For more information visit: <https://prepareforpowerdown.com/>