

Berkeley CERT

Power Outage Tips



Before an outage:

- Have battery powered lanterns, flashlights, and radio stored in your home and workplace.
- Store extra batteries for lights and chargers for mobile phones and other devices.
- Get in the habit of keeping your mobile devices plugged in and fully charged whenever possible.
- Boredom can set in quickly without power! Have good books, board games, decks of cards, or battery-powered portable devices on hand to keep the family entertained.
- If you have a landline, keep at least one non-cordless phone in your home because it will work even if you lose power.
- Fill any large open spaces in your freezer with sturdy bottles of water (leave space at the top for the water to expand). This will help keep frozen food cold longer in a power outage.
- Have a back-up plan for any medical devices you use that require power.

During an outage:

- Candles can cause fires. Instead, use battery powered or solar powered lanterns and flashlights.
- Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed. Food will stay cold for 24 – 48 hours.
- Only operate generators outdoors, never inside.
- Conserve mobile device batteries by turning off apps, reducing the screen brightness, and putting the device in airplane mode when you're not using it.
- Turn off or disconnect appliances to avoid a surge when the power is restored.
- Do not call 911 to report or ask about a power outage. Power outage information from PG&E is at 1-800-743-5002 or on Twitter @PGE4Me.
- Listen to AM 1610 for emergency info.
- Keep in touch with loved ones via text if possible.

For more information from PG&E on storms, outages and safety, visit

<http://www.pge.com/en/safety/naturaldisaster/stormsoutagessafety/index.page>

After an outage:

- Throw away any spoiled food.
- Restock your supply of batteries.

This document was created by Berkeley CERT volunteers. Learn more about free trainings and other opportunities to get involved with Berkeley CERT here:

<http://www.cityofberkeley.info/CERT/>