

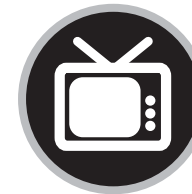


A Guide to Home Preparedness



You Will Lose Power. You Just Can't Predict When.

As citizens of a modern world we are highly dependent on electricity and the many conveniences it provides. Our everyday routines are controlled by the alarm clocks, phone chargers and coffee makers that help us function. An interruption in power brings it all to a screeching halt. But beyond the break in routine and minor inconveniences, a power outage can pose a very real threat to both property and health. This booklet contains some practical advice on what you can do in the event of a power outage, and what you can do to ensure that you and your family are prepared.



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did you know?

Hurricane Season in the Atlantic is generally accepted to run from June 1 to November 30. Activity typically spikes in early September and then again in October. In 1978, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced that it would alternate men's and women's names in the naming of hurricanes. Up until that point only women's names had been used.

How to Prepare for Natural Disasters and Blackouts

Many disasters hit without any warning. Others are downright probable. In fact, a recent study conducted by the United States Department of Energy has concluded that our demand for power has increased by 35% over the last decade, but our capacity to generate it has only increased by 18%. The bottom line? Blackouts, and power grid failure are a reality we're going to have to live with for the foreseeable future. That's not to say you can't be prepared. With a little foresight you can avoid major inconveniences and undue risk to your family and home. Here are a few common sense precautionary steps we can all address quickly and easily:

1. Make sure everyone of a reasonable age knows where to find water mains, gas mains and circuit boxes. Leave simple instructions posted if possible.
2. Assemble a simple emergency supply kit and let everyone in the house know where to find it (see emergency kit recommendations).
3. Discuss where to go in the event of tornadoes, hurricanes and other disasters.
4. Make copies of important documents like insurance forms.
5. Keep several gallons of bottled water on hand.
6. Have at least one phone in the house that does not require electricity (not cordless) – even if you keep in it a closet until needed.
7. If you have extra room in your freezer, put some plastic containers filled with water in it. In the event of power loss they will help your freezer stay colder longer.

Using a Portable Generator

If it looks like your power is going to be out for an extended period, say more than 6 hours, you might want to consider using a generator. Before you do, however, it's best to contact your local power company and get an idea of when they think power will be returned. If you do intend to use your generator, here are some basics to keep in mind:

1. Spend some time reviewing the operator's manual so you are familiar with how your generator operates.
2. Pay close attention to the amount of power needed to operate the appliances and items you intend to run (see load chart). Overloading your generator could result in a blown fuse or damage to the items you are running.
3. Never run your generator in a fully-enclosed area – including inside a garage, carport, basement, crawlspace, or other enclosed or partially-enclosed area, even with ventilation. Opening doors and windows or using fans will not prevent carbon monoxide buildup.
4. Plug appliances directly into the generator. Or, use a heavy-duty, outdoor extension cord that is rated (in watts or amps) at least equal to the sum of the connected appliance loads.
5. Keep your generator dry. Never operate your generator in standing water or rain – you could be electrocuted. Additionally, never touch your generator with wet hands.
6. Always allow your generator to cool down before refueling. Spilled fuel could result in fire and personal injury. When refueling, it is also a good idea to take the time to check the oil level.



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HomeSite™ Power Load Chart

Although a portable generator can help solve a lot of the problems and frustrations that come with a power outage, they do have their limitations. Always pay close attention to load requirements of the items you intend to run with your generator, and don't forget, some items like refrigerators will draw substantially more power when first starting up. This chart will provide a useful overview of power requirements of commonly used items.

did you know?

If frequent lightening is occurring around your neighborhood, it's a good idea to turn off your air conditioner.

Power surges from lightning can overload the compressor and damage the air conditioner.



Tool or Appliance*	Running Watts (Rated)	Starting Watts (Peak)
Belt Sander	1200	2400
Ceiling Fan	800	1200
Central AC – 10,000 BTU [†]	1500	3000
Central AC – 24,000 BTU [†]	3800	4950
Circular Saw – 7 1/4"	1400	2300
Clock Radio	100	-
Clothes Dryer – Gas	700	1200
Coffee Maker	1500	-
Computer – 17" Monitor	800	-
Deep Freezer	700	1000
Dishwasher – Hot Dry	1500	1500
DVD/CD Player	100	-
Electric Water Heater – 40 Gal. [†]	4000	-
Fax Machine	65	-
Furnace Fan	800	1300
Garage Door Opener	750	1200
Hair Dryer	1250	-
Hot Plate	2100	-
Inkjet Printer	80	-
Iron	1200	-
Laser Printer	950	-
Lighting	75	-
Microwave Oven – 1000 Watt	1000	-
Miter Saw – 10"	1650	2400
Oscillating Fan	200	400
Quartz Halogen Work Light	1000	-
Reciprocating Saw	1200	2000
Refrigerator/Freezer	700	1500
Security System [†]	500	-
Space Heater	1800	-
Stereo Receiver	450	-
Sump Pump	800	1200
Table Fan – 14"	200	400
Table/Radial Arm Saw 10"	2000	3600
Television – 27"	500	-
VCR	100	-
Water Well Pump – 1/3 HP (220V) [†]	1000	2000
Window AC – 10,000 BTU	1200	2200

* The wattages listed in our reference guide above are based on estimated wattage requirements. For exact wattages, check the data plate or owner's manual of the item you wish to power.

[†] These units are usually hard-wired and require a professionally installed transfer switch.



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Food for Thought...

In the event you didn't keep your refrigerator running, play it safe and throw out any foods that pose a health threat. When you weigh the real costs versus the potential risk, it's an easy decision. This chart will help you identify what you may keep and what you should throw out.



Frozen Foods:

Food Still Cold
Held At 40° F Or Above
Under 2 Hours

Held Above 40° F
For Over 2 Hours

Meat and Mixed Dishes:

	Food Still Cold Held At 40° F Or Above Under 2 Hours	Held Above 40° F For Over 2 Hours
Beef, Veal, Lamb, Pork, Poultry, Ground Meat and Poultry	Refreeze	Discard
Casseroles with Meat, Pasta, Rice, Egg or Cheese Base, Stews, Soups, Convenience Foods, Pizza	Refreeze	Discard
Fish, Shellfish, Breaded Seafood Products	Refreeze*	Discard

Dairy:

	Food Still Cold Held At 40° F Or Above Under 2 Hours	Held Above 40° F For Over 2 Hours
Milk	Refreeze*	Discard
Eggs (out of shell), Egg Products	Refreeze	Discard
Ice Cream, Frozen Yogurt	Discard	Discard
Cheese (soft and semi soft), Cream Cheese, Ricotta	Refreeze*	Discard
Hard Cheese (Cheddar, Swiss, Parmesan)	Refreeze	Refreeze

Fruits And Vegetables:

	Food Still Cold Held At 40° F Or Above Under 2 Hours	Held Above 40° F For Over 2 Hours
Fruit Juices	Refreeze	Refreeze**
Home or Commercially Packaged Fruit	Refreeze*	Refreeze**
Vegetable Juices	Refreeze	Discard***
Home or Commercially Packaged or Blanched Vegetable	Refreeze*	Discard***

Baked Goods-Baking Ingredients:

	Food Still Cold Held At 40° F Or Above Under 2 Hours	Held Above 40° F For Over 2 Hours
Flour, Cornmeal, Nuts	Refreeze	Refreeze
Pie Crusts, Breads, Rolls, Muffins, Cakes (no custard fillings)	Refreeze	Refreeze
Cakes, Pies, Pastries with Custard or Cheese Filling, Cheesecake	Refreeze	Discard
Commercial and Homemade Bread Dough	Refreeze*	Refreeze**

* May be some texture & flavor loss **Discard if mold, yeasty smell or sliminess develops

***Discard if above 50°F for over 8 hours

Refrigerated Foods:

Food Still Cold
Held At 40° F Or Above
Under 2 Hours

Held Above 40° F
For Over 2 Hours

Dairy-Eggs-Cheese:

	Food Still Cold Held At 40° F Or Above Under 2 Hours	Held Above 40° F For Over 2 Hours
Milk, Cream, Sour Cream, Buttermilk, Evaporated Milk, Yogurt	Keep	Discard
Butter, Margarine	Keep	Keep
Baby Formula, Opened	Keep	Discard
Eggs, Egg Dishes	Keep	Discard
Hard and Processed Cheeses	Keep	Keep
Soft Cheeses	Keep	Discard

Fruits And Vegetables:

	Food Still Cold Held At 40° F Or Above Under 2 Hours	Held Above 40° F For Over 2 Hours
Fruit Juices, Canned Fruits, Fresh Fruits Vegetables, Cooked;	Keep	Keep
Vegetable Juice, Opened	Keep	Discard (If Over 6 Hours)
Fresh Mushrooms, Herbs, Spices	Keep	Keep
Garlic, Chopped In Oil or Butter	Keep	Discard

Meat-Poultry-Seafood:

	Food Still Cold Held At 40° F Or Above Under 2 Hours	Held Above 40° F For Over 2 Hours
Fresh or Leftover Meat, Poultry, Fish or Seafood	Keep	Discard
Lunchmeats, Hot Dogs, Bacon, Sausage, Dried Beef	Keep	Discard

Mixed Dishes-Side Dishes:

	Food Still Cold Held At 40° F Or Above Under 2 Hours	Held Above 40° F For Over 2 Hours
Casseroles, Soups, Stews	Keep	Discard
Meat, Tuna, Shrimp, Chicken, Egg Salad	Keep	Discard
Cooked Pasta, Pasta Salads with Mayonnaise or Vinegar Base	Keep	Discard

Pies-Breads:

	Food Still Cold Held At 40° F Or Above Under 2 Hours	Held Above 40° F For Over 2 Hours
Cream or Cheese-Filled Pastries and Pies	Keep	Discard
Fruit Pies	Keep	Keep
Breads, Rolls, Cakes, Muffins, Quick Breads	Keep	Keep
Refrigerator Biscuits, Rolls, Cookie Dough	Keep	Discard

Sauces-Spreads-Jams:

	Food Still Cold Held At 40° F Or Above Under 2 Hours	Held Above 40° F For Over 2 Hours
Mayonnaise, Tartar Sauce, Horseradish Opened Salad Dressing, Jelly, Relish, Taco and Barbecue Sauce, Mustard, Catsup, Olives	Keep	Discard***
	Keep	Keep

Source: American Red Cross. "What Should Be Discarded After A Power Outage?"



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Assembling an Emergency Supply Kit

Many of us have everything we need to endure a natural disaster. The problem: we don't always know where everything is. The purpose of a disaster supply kit is to keep all the essentials in a centralized place – a place you'll know to look when disaster strikes. It's a good idea to keep your emergency supply kit in the basement or a closet where it's cool and dry, checked periodically, and expired items replaced.

did you know?

A gas fireplace can be used even when the power is out. Much like a gas stove, your gas fireplace will operate if carefully lit manually. Although the blower will not be operable, the fireplace will still serve as an emergency source of heat.

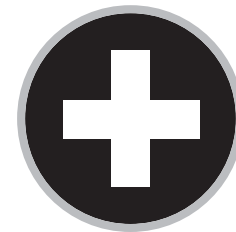


Emergency Supply Kit Items

- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Wireless phone or non-cordless phone
- Battery-operated radio with a weather band
- First aid kit with essential medicines and a manual
- Candles and matches
- Drinking water supply to last three days
- Non-perishable, ready-to-eat food and a manual can opener
- Special need items such as baby food and diapers
- Towels, toilet paper, and bathroom items
- Credit cards
- Work gloves
- Duct tape
- A copy of insurance documents
- Blankets and sleeping gear
- List of phone numbers and addresses of emergency services and shelters, physicians, family and friends

Keep tools handy that you may need:

- Hammer and nails
- Screwdrivers
- Wrench
- Small hatchet



Additional Information

American Red Cross National Headquarters

2025 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006
Phone: (202) 303-4498
www.redcross.org

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

500 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20472
Phone: (202) 566-1600
www.fema.gov

Useful Websites:

National Weather Service – www.nws.noaa.gov
Department of Homeland Security – www.dhs.gov
Department of Health and Human Services – www.hhs.gov/disasters



Important Phone Numbers:

Name/Company:

Address:

Phone:

Website:

Email Address:

Name/Company:

Address:

Phone:

Website:

Email Address:

Name/Company:

Address:

Phone:

Website:

Email Address:

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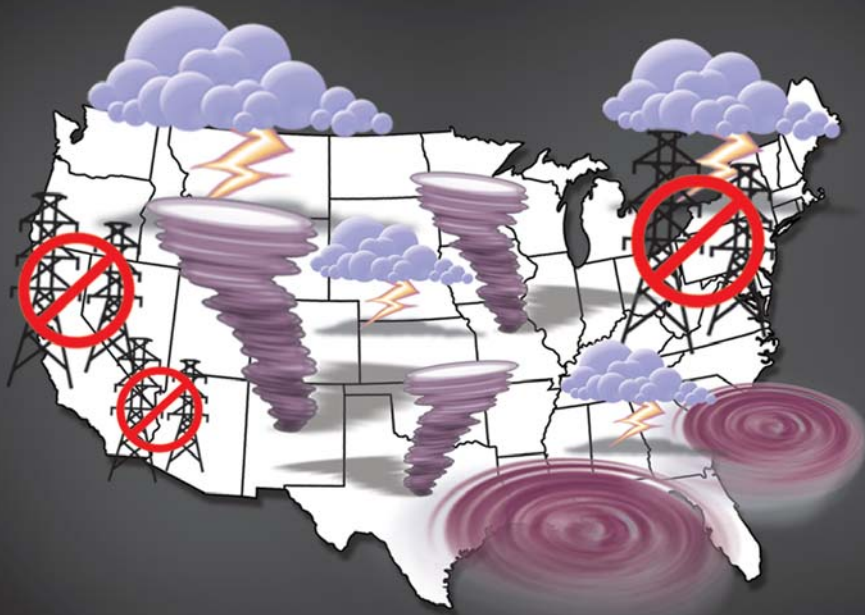
Website:

Email Address:



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People Everywhere Are Talking About Emergency Power



Power when you need it— power when you want it...

that's what Onan's HomeSite™ Power products are all about.

From the lightweight and convenience of our portable generators to the hands-off security of our fully automatic standby units, we have a power solution that fits your needs.

When you're looking for a little more power, look to Onan.



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