



POWER OUTAGE TIPS

Here are a few helpful reminders that each homeowner should consider in an effort to minimize the impacts that could result from a planned Power Outage. Several of these recommendations are also good things to do when an unscheduled power outage occurs.

- Our power provider *Volunteer Energy Cooperative* has a Smartphone app called *SmartHub* that will provide current status on power restoration efforts when an outage occurs. It also has a lot of other information on your account both billing and power usage. It is available from the app store for both Apple and Android devices. Just search for *SmartHub*.
- Only use *Portable Generators* in well-ventilated areas away from your home to prevent *Carbon Monoxide Poisoning* during a power outage. You cannot see, taste or smell Carbon Monoxide and it is often called "the invisible killer."
- If you are on a *CPAP machine* you need to check with your physician or your medical equipment supplier concerning your individual course of action such as a battery backup system. Those who are on *oxygen* also need to check with their individual physician and medical supplier about your specific needs. Let your physician know that you are dependent on life-support devices and about the planned power outage and follow their advice.
- *Check your flashlights and portable radios* to confirm they're working. Use flashlights for lighting, not candles which can be a fire hazard.
- *Fully charge your cell phone*, laptop and any other devices before the power outage.
- *Set your refrigerator and freezer to their coldest settings* (remember to reset them back to normal once power is restored). During an outage, minimize the number of times you open the refrigerator or freezer door. Food can stay cold in a full refrigerator for up to 24 hours and in a well-packed freezer for 48 hours (24 hours if it is half-packed).
- You may want to *unplug your major electronic devices* like televisions and computers, either prior to a scheduled outage or during an unscheduled outage and then re-plug them after power has been restored. This will provide added protection in the event there is a power surge as the power is restored.
- During a power outage water usage can cause your *grinder pump* to overflow into your yard or crawl space. Limit your water usage as much as possible. It is no longer recommended that you turn off your grinder pump during a power outage.
- Don't forget to reset your clocks and interior and exterior timers after the power is restored.



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- The Fairfield Glade Police Department will conduct extra patrols through all neighborhoods during power outages.

All Police Department and Emergency Services personnel are on call and will be available throughout the duration of the event and if you need any emergency services please **call 911** for the fastest response. Driving is discouraged during the outage unless it is an emergency.

"IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING NOW"

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