

ORANGE COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE # 3

Date: 9-8-11

Time: 2130 Hours

FOOD SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR AREAS IMPACTED BY POWER OUTAGE

Food safety should be a consideration for all Orange County residents affected by the power outage.

If the power is out for less than 2 hours, the food in your refrigerator and freezer will be safe to consume. While the power is out, keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible to keep food cold for longer.

If the power is out for longer than 2 hours, follow these guidelines:

- For the Freezer section: A freezer that is half full will hold food safely for up to 24 hours. A full freezer will hold food safely for 48 hours. Do not open the freezer door if you can avoid it.
- For the Refrigerated section: Pack milk, other dairy products, meat, fish, eggs, gravy, and spoilable leftovers into a cooler surrounded by ice. Inexpensive Styrofoam coolers are fine for this purpose.
- Use a thermometer to check the temperature of your food right before you cook or eat it. Throw away any food that has a temperature of more than 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

For additional guidelines on food safety during an emergency, visit www.foodsafety.gov.

The Orange County Public Information Hotline number is (714) 628-7085. Unless there is a life-threatening emergency, do not call 911.

Release authorized by: *[Signature]* Title: *Dir. of ENG Servs.*

Email or Faxed/time: *2130*

Media Station: _____

Sent by: *[Signature]* Date/Time: *2130 9/8/11*