

STORM SEASON SAFETY



STAY SAFE IN A POWER OUTAGE

Hey Californians! As cooler months bring new challenges to our state that can cause power outages, like floods, high winds and deep snow, Listos California is taking action to protect our communities.

While the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and first responders across our state prepare for this climate-driven extreme weather, there are a few simple steps YOU can take today to keep yourself, your loved ones and neighbors safe.

Planning ahead for power outages is the best way to ensure everyone's safety until the power comes back on. Be prepared and be informed to keep you and the people you care about safe.



PREPARE FOR A POWER OUTAGE

- Sign up for alerts through your energy company so you can be notified about any energy issues. If you use electric medical and assistive devices, be sure to enroll in a medical baseline program to ensure you're safe if the power goes off.
- Create a personal disaster plan with family and caregivers for how to meet your needs during a power outage.
- Keep phones and backup batteries fully charged, and have access to a battery-powered radio for news.
- Have freezer packs, ice and a cooler ready to keep food and medicine cold.
- If you have an electric garage door, learn how to use the manual release lever.
- Know where your circuit breakers and fuse boxes are and how to check them.
- Have phone numbers written down in case of an emergency.



STAY SAFE DURING A POWER OUTAGE

- Report downed power lines to 911 and your utility company. Keep people and pets away. Don't drive over downed power lines.
- Turn off everything that was on before the outage. Leave one light on that you will see when power is back on.
- Unplug sensitive electronic equipment if you do not have surge protectors.
- Do not use a gas stove or oven to heat your home. Don't use a grill inside for heat or cooking food.





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STAY SAFE DURING A POWER OUTAGE

- Only use a generator outside, at least 20 feet from doors and windows. Do not use generators in wet conditions. Never use a generator indoors. Its poisonous exhaust can kill in minutes.
- Keep freezers and refrigerators closed. Use coolers with ice if necessary.
- Go to a community location with power if cold temperatures are extreme. In extended outages, call county officials to find shelter and warming center locations. Public shelters serve everyone and cannot ask for ID. Some shelters may better serve people with disabilities or pets.
- Check if neighbors, friends or family have power and ask if you can shelter there. Or, offer your home if you have power and others don't.



RECOVER FROM A POWER OUTAGE

- When power returns, don't turn on any appliances or devices that got wet. Turn on appliances one at a time.
- Document and take photos if you have storm damage. Find other recovery resources on government websites.
- Review your personal disaster plan and make changes based on your recent experience to prepare for future power outages.

