

BE PREPARED FOR A

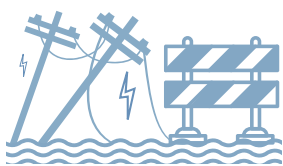
POWER OUTAGE



FEMA

Extended power outages will impact the lives and property of the whole community.

A power outage is when the electrical power goes out unexpectedly.



May disrupt communications, water, transportation



May close retail businesses, grocery stores, gas stations, ATMs, banks, and other services



Can cause food spoilage, water contamination



Can prevent use of medical devices

PROTECT YOURSELF DURING A POWER OUTAGE

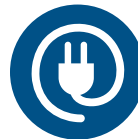
Keep freezers and refrigerators closed as much as possible.



Stockpile water and food for at least seven days of more.



Only use generators outdoors and away from windows.



Disconnect appliances and electronics to avoid damage from electrical surges.



Have emergency plans for refrigerating medicines or for electrical-dependent medical devices.

Do not use a gas stove to heat your home.



If safe, go to an alternate location for heat. Or have a safe alternate heat source.

For More Information:

Waldo County EMA
4 Public Safety Way, Belfast, ME 04915
www.waldocountyme.gov/ema



Check in on family, friends and neighbors.
Volunteer to help your community during a disaster.

HOW TO STAY SAFE WHEN A POWER OUTAGE OCCURS

Prepare NOW

Take an inventory now of the items you need that rely on electricity. Have a manual work-a-round.

Talk to your medical provider about a power outage plan for medical devices powered by electricity and refrigerated medicines.

Plan for batteries and/or generators to meet your needs.

Have a battery-operated AM/FM radio. Monitor weather reports.

Install carbon monoxide detectors with battery backup in central locations on every level of your home.

Determine whether your home phone will work in a power outage and how long battery backup will last.

Review the supplies that are available in case of no power. Have flashlights with extra batteries for every household member.

Stockpile shelf-stable food supplies that do not require refrigeration, and are easy to warm and prepare.

Keep mobile phones and other electric equipment charged.

Keep all gas tanks and cans full.

Survive DURING

Keep freezers and refrigerators closed. The refrigerator will keep food cold for **about four hours**. A full freezer will keep the temperature for **about 48 hours**. Use coolers with ice if necessary. Monitor temperatures with a thermometer.

Avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Generators, camp stoves, or charcoal grills should always be used outdoors and at least 20 feet away from windows. Never use a gas stovetop or oven to heat your home.

Check on your family, friends, and neighbors. Older adults and young children are especially vulnerable to extreme temperatures.

Go to a community shelter with power if cold is extreme and you cannot safely heat your home.

Turn off or disconnect appliances, equipment, or electronics. Power may return with momentary “surges” or “spikes” that can cause damage.

Be Safe AFTER

When in doubt, throw it out! Throw away any food that has been exposed to temperatures 40 degrees or higher for two hours or more, or that has an unusual odor, color, or texture.

If the power is out for more than a day, discard any medication that should be refrigerated, unless the drug’s label says otherwise. If a life depends on the refrigerated drugs, consult a doctor or pharmacist and use medicine only until a new supply is available.

Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to [Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) and search for **power outage**.

Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a **power outage**.

