



Power Outage Preparedness



KNOW THE HAZARDS



Power outages can impact:

- Water supply
- Food safety and storage
- Medication refrigeration
- Ability to use durable medical equipment
- Communication infrastructure and ability to charge cell phones
- Driving conditions when traffic signals are not working
- Ability to charge electric vehicles
- Electric powered garage doors



TRANSPORTATION

- Try to keep electric vehicles or other transportation devices charged as much as possible, and fill tanks on gas powered vehicles before severe weather or planned outages.



IF ALL ELSE FAILS, LEAVE YOUR HOME AND GO TO A FRIEND, NEIGHBOR, HOTEL, OR SHELTER WHERE POWER OUTAGES ARE NOT OCCURRING TO ACCESS POWER.

PLAN AHEAD

TAKE THE FOLLOWING STEPS TO PREPARE FOR POWER OUTAGES:

BUILD A KIT

- Build a basic emergency kit - a list of suggested items is on the back of this handout.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

- Invest in a back-up generator or other power source for critical items like durable medical equipment.
- Use an ice chest or back-up power to keep medications stored at the correct temperature.

FOOD SAFETY

- Have a supply of non-perishable foods that can be prepared and stored without electricity or refrigeration.
- Dispose of refrigerated food if power has been out for 4+ hours - check on public health guidelines for more info.

WHAT TO EXPECT

During power outages, information is accessible through your electrical utility provider. Learn more by calling or visiting your provider's website.

Providers in Boulder County:

Longmont Power and Communications - www.longmontcolorado.gov/departments

Lyons Municipal Light and Power - www.townoflyons.com/174/utilities

Poudre Valley REA - www.pvrea.coop

United - www.unitedpower.com

Xcel Energy - <https://co.my.xcelenergy.com>

RESOURCES



EMERGENCY KIT SUPPLIES FOR POWER OUTAGES

- Non-perishable food items
- Water (1 gallon per person per day)
- Battery powered lighting (flashlight, lantern, etc.) and extra batteries
- Battery powered radio
- Phone battery charger
- NOAA weather radio
- Sleeping bag/blankets
- Manual can opener
- Essential medications



INFORMATION AND SHELTERS

- Check the Boulder Office of Disaster Management website for information and any potential shelter openings at www.boulderodm.gov.



BACK-UP BATTERY PROGRAM

- For financial assistance for back-up power sources look into back-up battery programs offered in Colorado, or contact Office of Disaster Management at 303-441-3647 to learn more.

FOR MORE PREPAREDNESS INFORMATION



www.boulderodm.gov/preparedness



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