

# Power Outage

## Home Electrical Circuits

- Familiarize yourself with the location of the electrical breaker panel.
- Turn off breakers for areas of concern.
- If in doubt, shut off main breaker. Check your house electrical meter. If it is on your home, there may be a main disconnect breaker where the line enters the home.
- Be sure and show others in the family where the breakers are located in case of emergency.
- In case of basement flooding:
  - Think before stepping in any water.
  - A shock hazard may exist even in an inch of water.
  - If the electrical panel is upstairs, shut off all circuits.
  - If the electrical panel is in the basement, determine whether it can be reached on DRY ground. If not, shut off the main breaker.



## Before a Power Outage

- Learn location of fuse box or circuit breaker.
- Store candles, flashlights and extra batteries in convenient places.
- Have food and water supplies on hand.
- Know the location of all camping equipment: stove, lantern, sleeping bags. Make sure equipment is operational and that you know how to use it. Use camping equipment, requiring gasoline, propane, white fuel, Coleman fuel or charcoal briquettes outside only.
- Keep refrigerator well defrosted.

## During the Power Outage

- Unplug all your appliances and electronic equipment. A power surge could ruin appliances when power is restored.
- Turn off all but one light switch.
- Open refrigerator door only to take food out, close as quickly as possible.
- Use camping equipment outside, six feet away from everything. Use only a fireplace, properly installed wood stove or a new-style kerosene heater in a safe area with fresh outside air coming into the area.
- Report any downed lines.
- Do not allow children to carry lanterns, candles or fuel.

## After the Power Outage

- When power is restored, plug in appliances one by one, waiting a few minutes between each one. This will prevent overloading the system.
- Be patient. Energy may first be restored to police and fire departments and hospitals.
- Examine your frozen food. If it still contains ice crystals, it may be refrozen. If meat is off-color or has an odd odor, throw it away.