

PREPARING FOR POWER OUTAGES

A power outage is one of the most common interruptions to business operations. While short interruptions may result in only a small inconvenience, prolonged outages can have a significant impact on your operations and revenue. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, weather only accounts for about one-third of all power outages. Power interruptions are more likely to be caused by animals, fallen trees and human error.

PREPARE

- Identify equipment and systems critical to continuous operation and have reliable backup power supplies for these systems
- Back up files and operating systems regularly
- Know the ratings of fuses critical to your machinery and keep them in supply
- Clearly mark your meter room and electric service entrances
- Keep sufficient heating fuel on hand since regular sources may be cut off, especially if the outage is widespread or long-term

					
Emergency Lighting	Exit Sign and Lights	Safety Signs	Digital Multimeters	Plug In Surge Protection	Safety Switches
					
Thermal Imagers	Circuit Testers	Voltage Detectors	Standby Generators	Training	I.D. Products and Tags









RESPOND

- Check the fuse boxes or circuit breakers to determine if a fuse has blown or a breaker has tripped. If the fuses are okay, check your neighbor to see if the outage is at your facility or area wide
- Report a power outage to your local electrical utility company immediately
- Avoid back-feed by using an appropriately sized portable generator
- If someone has been electrocuted, do not come in direct contact with that person and call 911 immediately
- Monitor battery-operated radio or television for emergency updates
- Turn off heat pumps, large equipment and lights to decrease power demand when electricity is restored

					
Generators	Flashlights	Extension Cords and Outlet Strips	Two Way Radios	Fuel and Gas Cans	Patient Transfer
					
Batteries	Barricade Lights	Electrical Gloves	Hand Tools	Lockout Devices	Emergency Radio

RECOVER

- Be cautious around all electrical wires and machinery—you may not know when the power has returned and these items become “hot”
- Check with local authorities to make sure drinking water is safe
- Do not try to help by removing trees from power lines, live trees are excellent conductors of electricity, as are metal chain saw blades and bars
- Do not repair any power lines without proper protective apparel and equipment
- If power is out in your area, be aware that neighbors using electric generators incorrectly could be sending electricity into power lines. This could be deadly
- Never run a generator, pressure washer or any gasoline-powered engine inside an enclosed structure, even if the doors or windows are open

					
Plug In Miniature Circuit Breakers	Ground Fault Protection	Wire and Cable	Standby Generators	Solar Chargers	Electrical Boxes
					
Antistatic Accessories	Conduit and Outlet Bodies				