

Public Safety Power Shutoff Checklist

AEP
TEXAS

Before a scheduled Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) or anticipated storm, here are steps to help you prepare and stay safe during prolonged power outages.

Stock Your Outage Kit

- ☐ Radio (battery, solar or hand crank)
- ☐ Flashlights
- ☐ Fresh batteries
- ☐ First aid kit
- ☐ Charged backup power bank for cell phones
- ☐ Medications/prescriptions
- ☐ Cash
- ☐ Water (Factor a gallon of drinking water per person per day, plus more for hygiene, pets, etc.)
- ☐ Non-perishable, easy-to-prepare foods
- ☐ Pet and livestock supplies
- ☐ Disposable plates, cups and utensils
- ☐ Manual can opener
- ☐ Extra clean clothes and bedding
- ☐ Camp stove or grill with fuel (use outdoors only!)
- ☐ Activities – board games, playing cards, books, puzzles, etc.

Generator Safety

If you plan to use a generator or other backup power source, please follow these safety tips:

- During a PSPS event, wildfire risk is extremely elevated. Thoroughly clear the area around your generator so it does not become an ignition source.
- Only run gas-powered generators outdoors where there is adequate ventilation. Never run a generator in a home, garage, shed, or next to open windows or doors.
- If you have a generator, install battery-operated carbon monoxide detectors following the manufacturer's instructions.
- Do not connect portable generators to your home's main wiring panel or outlets. Instead, plug key appliances directly into the generator.
- If you have a whole-house generator permanently installed, ensure it is done by a licensed electrician.
- Improper generator installation can allow electricity to backfeed onto power lines, creating an electrocution hazard for our field employees and first responders.



Other Considerations

- Discuss a family evacuation plan, including an emergency meetup location.
- Practice opening your garage door manually, without power. If you are unable to do so, park outside the garage.
- Plug electronics and appliances into surge protectors.
- Freeze containers of water or make extra ice to preserve food longer.
- Set your refrigerator and freezer to their coldest temperatures 24-48 hours in advance of a scheduled PSPS. The CDC* recommends discarding perishable food once it is warmer than 40 degrees F. That equates to about 4 hours in a closed refrigerator or 48 hours in a closed, full freezer.
- Have hard copies of important phone numbers and documents.
- During a PSPS, cell phone service could fail if towers do not have backup power. Corded landlines and charged satellite phones will continue to function.
- Please note electric water pumps and HVAC fans will not function when electricity is off.
- If you rely on an electric medical device, make sure you have a plan either to relocate or use backup power during an extended outage.
- If you have an electric vehicle, charge it fully before the scheduled PSPS, and note public charging locations outside the affected area.

Stay Informed



Download our mobile app to view status updates on outages.



Update your contact information and sign up for outage alerts to receive notifications as new information becomes available.

