

Tips

Avoid using candles and kerosene lanterns because of fire risks! Instead, use battery-powered flashlights and lanterns.

Place generators or other fuel-powered machines **OUTSIDE** the home. Carbon monoxide (CO) fumes are odorless and can quickly overwhelm you indoors.

In Case Of A Blackout ... Make Sure You Are Prepared

Preparing an **Emergency Go Kit** ahead of time can save precious time in the event you must evacuate or go without electricity, heat, or water for an extended period of time.

Turn the page over to see a list of important phone numbers you will need in an emergency!

During and after a blackout occurs, it is important to **STAY CALM**.

Canned Food

At least a three day supply



Money or Traveler's Checks



For Babies

Formula, diapers, bottles and nipples, powered milk, baby medications, blankets



First Aid Kit

Bandages, sunscreen, alcohol pads, gauze pads, scissors, tweezers, thermometer, insulin and other prescription medicines, denture equipment, contact lens and supplies, extra eye glasses, vaseline, aspirin



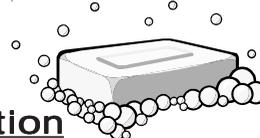
Tools

Battery-operated radio and flashlights, non-electric can opener, shutoff wrench, paper plates/cups, matches, batteries, whistle, paper and pen



Sanitation

Toilet paper, moist towelettes, soap, liquid detergent, feminine hygiene products, plastic garbage bags, plastic bucket with airtight lid, paper towels, disinfectant spray, household chlorine bleach



Bottled Water

One gallon per day per person



For Pets

Dried or canned pet food, one gallon of water for each day, plastic food dishes, blankets, towels, trash bags, ID, photo, carrier, medications, vaccination records and registrations, leash, toys



Clothing/Bedding



Compiled by: Office of the People's Counsel • 1133 15th Street, NW • Suite 500 • Washington, DC 20002 • Phone: 202-727-3071 • TTY/TDD: 202-727-2876 • Web: www.opc-dc.gov

1) Assess the situation



- Check to see if neighbors have power.
- Stay away from fallen power lines and trees.

2) Take precautionary steps

- Turn off all appliances to prevent an overload when the power returns causing a second outage.
- Keep freezer and refrigerator doors closed. Without power, a closed refrigerator can keep food cold for a day or two.
- Have a communication plan. The plan should include checking on neighbors and having neighbors check on you.

3) During the outage

- Eat foods that spoil quickly first.
- Do not refreeze seafood, poultry, ice cream, etc.
- During the winter, have everyone stay in one well-lit room during the day and wear layers of clothing.
- Use battery-operated flashlights and radios.
- Avoid using candles and kerosene lanterns because of fire risks.

Phone Numbers to Have:

For non-emergencies: 311

For emergencies: 911

Office of the People's Counsel: 202-727-3071

Mayor's City-wide Call Center: 202-727-1000

DC Emergency Management Agency: 202-727-6161
(24- hour hotline)

Department of Mental Health: 888-793-4357

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention: 800-311-3435

American Red Cross: 202-728-6401

Poison Center: 202-625-3333

Verizon: 1-800-275-2355

PEPCO

Customer Service: 202-833-7500

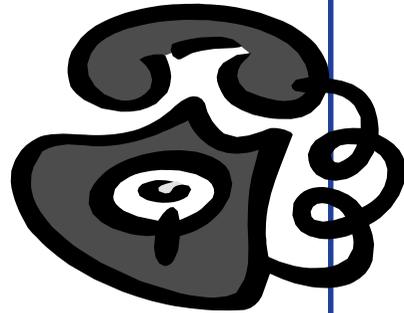
Power Outages: 877-737-2662

Life Threatening Emergencies: 202-872-3432

Washington Gas

Customer Service: 202-624-6049

Natural Gas Emergency Number: 703-750-1400



Candle Safety Rules

- **Always keep a burning candle within sight.** Do not walk with a lit candle. Extinguish all candles when leaving a room or before going to sleep.
- **Flashlights and other battery-powered lights are much safer light sources than candles during a power failure.**
- Never burn a candle on or near anything that can catch fire. Keep burning candles away from furniture, drapes, bedding, carpets, books, paper, flammable decorations, etc.
- Keep candles out of the reach of children and pets. Do not place lighted candles where they can be knocked over by children, pets or anyone else.
- Always use a candleholder specifically designed for candle use. The holder should be heat resistant, sturdy and large enough to contain any drips or melted wax. Be sure the candleholder is placed on a stable, heat-resistant surface.
- Do not burn a candle for longer than the manufacturer recommends.
- Extinguish the flame if it comes too close to the holder or container. For a margin of safety, discontinue burning a candle when 2 inches of wax remain (1/2inch if in a container). This will also help prevent possible heat damage to the counter/surface and prevent glass containers from cracking or breaking.
- Never use a candle as light when you go into a closet to look for things.
- Never use a candle for light when fueling equipment such as a lantern or kerosene heater.

