

2019

Fall: Into Safety!



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Power Out?

Sudden power outages can be frustrating and troublesome. Here are some tips to minimize loss and keep all members of your household as comfortable as possible. <https://www.ready.gov/power-outages>



Staying Safe Indoors

- Use flashlights in the dark, not candles.
- Eliminate unnecessary travel, especially by car. Traffic lights will be out and roads will be congested.
- If you are using a generator be sure you understand the risks of carbon monoxide poisoning and how to use generators safely. <https://www.energy.gov/ceser/emergency-preparedness/community-guidelines-energy-emergencies/using-backup-generators>

Food Safety

- Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible. An unopened refrigerator will keep foods cold for about 4 hours. A full freezer will keep the temperature for about 48 hours (24 hours if it is half full) if the door remains closed.
- First use perishable food from the refrigerator. Perishables should have a temperature of 40 degrees Fahrenheit (4 degrees Celsius) or below to be safe to eat. Then use food from the freezer.
- Use your non-perishable foods and staples after using food from the refrigerator and freezer.
- If it looks like the power outage will continue beyond a day, prepare a cooler with ice for your freezer items.
- Keep food in a dry, cool spot and keep it covered at all times.

Electrical Equipment

- Turn off and unplug all unnecessary electrical equipment, including sensitive electronics.
- Turn off or disconnect any appliances (like stoves), equipment or electronics you were using when the power went out. When power comes back on, surges or spikes can damage equipment.
- Leave one light turned on so you'll know when the power comes back on.

Staying Safe After a Power Outage

- If electrical power lines are down, don't touch them. Keep your family and pets away. Report downed lines to your utility company.

Throw Out Unsafe Food

- Throw away any food (particularly meat, poultry, fish, eggs and leftovers) that has been exposed to temperatures higher than 40° F (4° C) for 2 hours or more, or that has an unusual odor, color or texture. When in doubt, throw it out!
- If food in the freezer is colder than 40° F and has ice crystals on it, you can refreeze it.



Be Seen On Halloween!

Have No Fear! Halloween is Here

Halloween is one of the most anticipated nights of the year for kids. Keep kids safe by making sure they trick or treat with an adult if under the age of 12, and that kiddos have flashlights or glow sticks to be more visible to motorists. Be safe and be seen!

What **You Can Do**

Make it easier for drivers to see kids. Have kids carry a flashlight or glow stick, wear light costumes or attach reflective wristbands or tape to their outfit.

A **Chilling Fact**

Kids are more than twice as likely to be hit by a car and killed on Halloween than on any other day of the year.



Where to Find **Visibility Stuff**

These items can be found at mass retailers, party stores, sporting goods stores and online.



Drive Safely as It Gets Darker!

Fall Back: November 4th



Daylight Savings Time ends every year on the first Sunday in November. This means it starts to get darker earlier. Preparedness Tip: When you change your clocks backward by one hour, it's also a great time to check the batteries in your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.