



Outage Preparation

Although power outages can occur anytime of year, in Truckee we are most likely to experience outages during winter storms. Here are some tips to help you prepare for outages.

If your power goes out:

- Check to see if your neighbors are experiencing an outage
 - If their power is on, check if your main circuit breaker has tripped off.
- If the outage is not due to a tripped breaker in your house, report the outage:
 - Call the District at 530-587-3896
 - The District depends on customer calls to help identify the extent and cause of the outage. Accuracy of our outage management system depends on call volume. An outage may be extended if we do not get calls because we may be unaware there is an outage occurring.
- Always treat downed power lines like they are energized!
 - Do not touch or approach downed power lines or tree limbs which may be resting on power lines!
 - Report any downed lines to the District.
- Turn off or disconnect any appliances you were using when the power went out, except for one or two lights.
 - The lights will alert you to when power is restored.
 - This reduces the initial demand when power is restored, which may prevent additional outages.
 - Unplug computers or sensitive electronic equipment to prevent damage upon power restoration, or use appropriate protective devices.
- Keeping warm and cooking
 - Heat home with woodstove, if you have one.
 - Heat water and food on the woodstove.
 - Put on extra clothes and bundle up in blankets to stay warm, or find shelter elsewhere during extended outages.

- Use a grill or camp stove outdoors only to prepare food.
 - Never burn charcoal indoors for heating or cooking due to the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.
 - Burning anything indoors without adequate ventilation poses a risk of carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon monoxide is odorless and colorless and can be deadly.
- Keep the doors closed to your refrigerator and freezer as much as possible to prevent food spoilage.
 - During cold weather, food can be stored in a cooler outside or in a garage, but be aware that this may attract animals.
- If you have an automatic garage door opener or gate, make sure you know how to open them manually.
- Be prepared. Keep the following items as an emergency kit:
 - Flashlight and extra batteries
 - Bottled water
 - Wind-up clock
 - Manual can opener
 - Battery operated radio
 - Corded phone and fully charged cell phone
 - Supplies for people with special needs
 - Non-perishable food (canned or dried)
 - First aid kit
- Generator Safety
 - Please visit the outage section our webpage for information on safe generator operation.