

We often forget how much we depend on electricity. Here are some things you should consider:



May disrupt communications, water, transportation



May close retail businesses, grocery stores, gas stations, ATMs and other services



Can cause food spoilage, water contamination



Can prevent use of medical devices

## HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS DURING A POWER OUTAGE



### **KEEP FREEZERS AND REFRIGERATORS CLOSED.**

The refrigerator will keep food cold for about four hours. A full freezer will keep the temperature for about 48 hours. Use coolers with ice if necessary. Monitor temperatures with a thermometer.



**TURN OFF OR DISCONNECT APPLIANCES, EQUIPMENT OR ELECTRONICS.** Power may return with momentary "surges" or "spikes" that may cause damage.



USE ALTERNATE PLANS FOR REFRIGERATING MEDICINES OR POWER-DEPENDENT MEDICAL DEVICES.



USE FOOD SUPPLIES THAT DO NOT REQUIRE REFRIGERATION.



GO TO A COMMUNITY LOCATION WITH POWER WHEN HEAT OR COLD IS EXTREME (IF IT IS SAFE TO DO SO).





## AVOID CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING.

Generators, camp stoves or charcoal grills should always be used outdoors and at least 20 feet away from windows. Never use a gas stovetop or oven to heat your home.



**CHECK ON YOUR NEIGHBORS.** Older adults and young children are especially vulnerable to extreme temperatures.

# **HOW TO BE SAFE AFTER A POWER OUTAGE**



Throw away any food that has been exposed to temperatures 40 degrees or higher for two hours or more, or that has an unusual odor, color or texture.



## IF THE POWER IS OUT FOR MORE THAN A DAY, DISCARD ANY MEDICATION THAT SHOULD BE REFRIGERATED (UNLESS THE DRUG'S LABEL SAYS OTHERWISE).

If a life depends on the refrigerated drugs, consult a doctor or pharmacist and use medicine only until a new supply is available.

## TO LEARN MORE WAYS TO PREPARE FOR AN OUTAGE, PLEASE VISIT FEMA.GOV



In order to keep communities safe, PG&E may need to turn off power when extreme weather or wildfire conditions are forecast. This statewide initiative is called **Public Safety Power Shutoff.** 

To learn more about Public Safety Power Shutoff events and how to prepare for power outages, visit **prepareforpowerdown.com**.

