

Check. Plan. Do.

Power Outage Plan: Staying safe when the power goes out



My Power Outage Checklist

This Checklist is the first step in planning for a power outage. You don't need to write anything down, it's just a list to help you think about what to do. It will guide you in creating a more detailed **Power Outage Plan** later.

There are six key areas to think about:

1. People

Talk with the people around you.



- ☐ Assign someone in the household to oversee your Power Outage Plan.
- ☐ Practise key actions e.g. opening the electric garage door manually.
- ☐ Identify people to check on during a power outage e.g. neighbours who are vulnerable.
- ☐ If you live alone, share your plan with someone who can check on you.

2. Essentials

Think about what you'll need.



- ☐ Have 3 to 7 days' of non-perishable food and drinking water at home.
TIP! Don't forget pets.
- ☐ Keep 3 to 7 days' supply of any essential medications.
TIP! Do you use medical equipment at home?

Visit the [Life Support Power Outage Plan website](#) to get prepared.
- ☐ Keep your car fuelled or charged, especially during severe weather warnings.

3. Communication

Consider communication and information.



- ☐ Keep your mobile phone charged and have a back-up power source.
- ☐ If the internet and phone lines go down, you might need a battery-powered, or hand-crank radio so you can stay updated on weather conditions and emergency information.
- ☐ Talk to people in your local community about staying in contact during a power outage.

4. Light

Plan how you'll see in the dark.



- ☐ Keep torches or battery-powered lights and extra batteries.
TIP! Remember candles can be a fire risk.
- ☐ Store lights in an easy-to-find spot.

5. Comfort

Keep your household comfortable.



- ☐ Plan how to stay warm or cool without power (e.g. close blinds/curtains).
- ☐ Keep extra blankets, warm clothing and/or portable fans nearby.
- ☐ Have alternative cooking methods (e.g. camp stove, gas BBQ).

6. Surroundings

Keep your home and transport safe.



- ☐ Know any manual overrides for entry and exit to your property (like garage doors and/or property gates and doors).
- ☐ Think about evacuation including transportation.
- ☐ Think about how you'll preserve any food you have in your fridge and freezer.

For tips on food safety during power outages visit the [Department of Health website](#)