

# POWER OUTAGE CHECKLIST

## ARE YOU PREPARED?

A power outage can occur unexpectedly and may disrupt water, cause food spoilage, close businesses, and prevent the use of medical devices. Use our checklist to help stay safe when a **power outage** threatens!

## Prepare **NOW**



**Take an inventory** now & set aside: flashlights, battery-powered radio, candles, blankets, first-aid kit, nonperishable foods, battery-operated lantern, & drinking water.



**Protect electrical** items such as TV's, microwave, computers, with a voltage surge suppressor.



**Sign up for alerts** & warning systems and keep a list of emergency numbers.



**Keep mobile** phones & other electric equipment charged & gas tanks full.



**Plan for batteries** & other alternatives to meet your needs when the power goes out.

## Survive **DURING**



**Use food supplies** that do not require refrigeration. Keep the refrigerator door closed & move items into the freezer if possible.



**Call the local** electric company to report the outage & advise the company if there is emergency medical equipment in the home.



**Unplug most** lights & appliances to prevent electrical overload when power is restored.



**Open faucets for a** constant drip so pipes won't freeze.



**DO NOT run a** generator indoors.



**Check with** neighbors to see if their power is out.

## Be Safe **AFTER**



**Wait a few minutes** before turning on lights, & plug in appliances one at a time. Power levels can vary considerably when electricity is restored.



**When in doubt,** throw it out! 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.