

PSPS – Public Safety Power Shutoff How To Prepare

Information provided by PG&E.

PLAN in advance to be without electricity. A PSPS could mean that you might be without power for several days. During wildfire season (approximately May through November), PG&E may turn off electricity in designated areas when severe weather is forecasted to threaten a portion of the grid.

PG&E ALERTS:

- Sign up for PG&E ZIP Code alerts
 - Account holders receive PSPS alerts automatically. PG&E will send alerts by email, phone call, or text as early as possible, including the estimated power shut off and power restoration times, so customers can be ready for a PSPS.
 - Non-account holders, sign up here:
<https://pgealerts.alerts.pge.com/outages/pssp-address-alert> (for outages occurring at any addresses that are important to you).
- Update your PG&E contact information for alerts:
<http://pge.com/mywildfirealerts> or call 1-866-743-6589.
- Use PG&E's address look-up tool for address specific PSPS updates:
<https://pgealerts.alerts.pge.com/addresslookup/>
- Track the weather in your area by visiting PG&E's interactive weather map.

TERMS:

- PSPS Watch notifications are sent two days before and one day before power is shut off.
- PSPS Warning notification is sent when it has been officially decided to shut off power. This notification is typically sent several hours before power is shut off.
- PSPS Update notifications are sent while power is shut off with any revised estimated restoration times.
- PSPS Power Restored notification is sent when power is restored to your home.

Map Your Neighborhood

Medical Baseline customers - If you are a Medical Baseline customer, you may receive additional phone calls or an at-home visit to ensure your awareness and safety.

Vulnerable status - You can now sign up to receive additional PSPS notifications, including an in-person visit if needed, if anyone in your home has a condition that could become life threatening if power is disconnected.

PSPS TIPS:

The following Tips will help you get ready for and stay safe during a PSPS. Preparing in advance can reduce the stress and anxiety of a PSPS. Stock supplies for a week – include flashlights, first aid supplies, food, water, and cash.

Food:

- Make your own ice ahead of time. Freeze containers of water to keep food cold while power is off.
- Before the outage begins, set your refrigerator and freezer to their coldest settings until power is restored.
- Use coolers to keep food cold while power is off.
- Limit opening refrigerator and freezer doors. When power is off, food can be kept cold for up to four hours in refrigerators and up to 48 hours in freezers.
- Buy shelf stable foods. Have a manual can opener

Technology:

- Have a backup key to replace electronic keys and locks (which need power to operate).
- Unplug electrical appliances or equipment, like TVs and computers, that may spark or surge when power returns.
- Buy a battery-powered or crank radio.
- Download or print documents you may need.
- Locate free wi-fi locations in nearby areas.
- Invest in portable mobile and laptop battery chargers.
- Charge cell phones, backup chargers, flashlights in advance.
- Stock up on batteries for items you rely on.
- Have flashlights available for your household.

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Home:

- Consider purchasing battery-powered LED lights or solar lanterns.
- Consider any needs for pets.
- Keep cash on hand and fill up gas tanks. Local ATMs and gas stations may close during an outage.
- Leave a light on to alert you when power returns.
- Keep flashlights within reach.
- Practice opening garage doors manually or park your car outside.
- Make sure your Electric Vehicle's battery is fully charged.

Safety:

- Find space outside to use generators, camp stoves, and charcoal grills.
- Keep emergency numbers handy.
- Check on neighbors.
- Make sure backup power and generators are working properly.

Health:

- Stock up on first aid supplies.
- Stock prescription and non-prescription medications.
- Plan for medications that require refrigeration or devices that need power.
- Charge medical devices fully. Consider backup power if you rely on power for your device(s).

Additional Preparedness Resources:

- <http://ready.gov/> – Disaster preparedness information from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- <http://readyforwildfire.org/> – CAL FIRE's wildfire preparedness website
- <http://cpuc.ca.gov/wildfiresinfo> - Information on the CPUC's wildfire safety efforts
- <http://caloes.ca.gov/> – California Governor's Office of Emergency Services website
- <http://firesafecouncil.org/> – California Fire Safe Council website