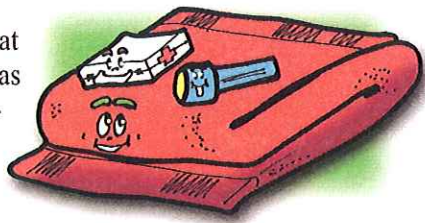


Prepare for a Power Outage

No matter what time of year it is, power outages – due to weather, accidents, power overload, or other causes – can cause a major disruption in your life. It's never too early to think about and make a plan for what you would do in the event of a power outage. **Here are several tips on how to prepare for a power outage in your area:**

Before a Power Outage

- Stock a supply of candles, matches, flashlights, batteries, canned food, a manual can opener, and extra prescription medicines.
- If you have forewarning of an impending outage, set your refrigerator and freezer on their coldest settings. Be sure to turn them back up when the risk is gone.
- Find out how to manually override your electric garage door to open it in case of a power outage in your area.
- Obtain an alternate heat source such as a kerosene heater and kerosene. Read the manufacturer's instruction manual carefully.
- Don't use any heat sources, such as gas ovens, ranges, barbecues, hibachis, or propane heaters, inside your home without adequate ventilation.
- Be sure you have extra blankets and warm clothes, a gallon of drinking water per day per person, soap or chlorine bleach for cleaning, and a land-line telephone or charged cell phone. (Portable phones need electricity.)



When the Lights Go Out

- Turn switches on lamps and appliances (except refrigerator and freezer) to the off position. Then put one lamp in the on position so you can tell when the power comes back.
- Turn off the thermostat and the circuit breaker for the water heater in order to avoid a power surge when the lights go back on. Close off rooms that don't have to be heated.

Using Your Car

- Conserve fuel. Gas pumps don't work without power. You won't be able to refill your tank.
- If traffic lights are out, consider all intersections to be four-way stops. It's the law in most areas. Drive safely if you have to get out.
- Stay away from downed power lines and sagging trees with broken limbs.

For more information, visit the National Safety Council at www.nsc.org. In Canada, visit the Canada Safety Council at www.safety-council.org.

Take Time for Tool Safety

When using tools, keep these safety tips in mind:

- ◆ Select the right tool for the job you're doing.
- ◆ Examine a tool for damage before using it. Keep your tools in good condition with regular maintenance.
- ◆ Use the proper protective equipment for the tool you're using. Don't wear loose clothing, dangling objects, or jewelry. If you have long hair, restrain it.
- ◆ Avoid dangerous environments. Don't use a power tool in a damp, wet, or unsafe area.
- ◆ Always disconnect electrical tools when not in use or when changing accessories such as drill bits, blades, or cutters.
- ◆ Avoid carrying the tool by the cord. Hold it by the handle.
- ◆ Secure items with a clamp or vise so your hands are free to operate the tool.
- ◆ Make sure observers are at a safe distance away.
- ◆ Keep good footing and maintain good balance.



Reduce the Risk of Rollover

Any vehicle can roll over, especially on slippery winter roads. **The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration makes these recommendations for reducing the risk of rollover:**

- Don't get SUV overconfidence. The bigger the vehicle, the harder it is to stop. Quick stop attempts lead to rollovers.
- Avoid conditions leading to loss of control. Common reasons drivers lose control and run off the road include driving too fast for conditions, driving while sleepy or distracted, and driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Be extra careful on rural roads, especially in the winter. Rural roads can be misleading. Unlike city roads, they're unlikely to be sanded or salted immediately.
- Avoid panic steering. Overcorrecting is an act that can cause rollovers. If the vehicle goes off the road, gradually reduce your speed and ease back onto the road when it's safe to do so.
- Maintain your tires. Improperly inflated or very worn tires are common reasons for losing control.
- Load the vehicle properly. Check the owner's manual to determine the maximum safe load and the proper distribution of the load. Any load placed on the roof increases the likelihood of rolling over.
- Always wear your seat belt. It will reduce your risk of being killed or seriously injured in a vehicle rollover.