

Be Prepared – Power Outages

Take steps to ensure that you are prepared for unplanned outages.

- Keep a corded phone in the house; cordless phones don't work during power outages.
- Program 310-2220 into your cellphone. This phone number is toll-free and dedicated to 24-hour outage reporting.
- Plug in sensitive electronic equipment through surge-protector power bars.
- If you use electronic life-sustaining equipment, make sure to have a backup power source. You can register your [life-sustaining equipment](#) with us and be notified of planned power outages.
- Winterize your home to retain heat by insulating walls and attics, caulking or weather-stripping doors and windows, and installing storm windows or covering windows with plastic.
- Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected once a year.
- Put together an outage kit.

Preparing an Outage Kit

Creating a kit that is handy and accessible, even in the dark, will help you stay safe during unplanned outages. Write 310-2220 on the outside of the kit and include the following items:

- Water— at least one gallon for each member of your household, per day.
- Food— non-perishable, easy to prepare items. Include a manual can opener (or a multi-purpose tool).
- Flashlights— include extra batteries and make sure the flashlight is functional. Candles can be included but must only be used by adults and never by children. Keep candles away from flammable material (such as curtains).
- First-Aid Kit— include essential medications and required medical items. If you have medication that needs to be refrigerated, consult with your pharmacist for guidance on proper storage during an extended outage.
- A battery-powered or hand-crank clock and radio.
- Blankets and warm clothing.

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In Cold Weather

Saskatchewan is often subject to extreme weather, including cold temperatures and heavy snowfall. Being prepared for the elements is an important part of staying safe.

- Don't use barbecues, portable generators and propane or kerosene heaters indoors. Burning fuel in unventilated areas produces [carbon monoxide](#), a deadly, odourless gas.
- Keep a supply of antifreeze on hand to protect plumbing from freezing.
- Make sure there are plenty of extra warm clothes and blankets around your home.
- In remote and rural areas, a wood-burning stove or fireplace is the best ways to provide heat during a prolonged outage.

The Use of Generators

Standby and back-up generators provide you with power when there is an outage.

- In order to install a generator, you're required to have a SaskPower [electrical permit](#), which can only be secured by a licensed electrical contractor.
- This includes installing a transfer switch. Without a transfer switch, your generator will feed power back into the power lines, creating a serious electrical hazard for our personnel working to restore service nearby.
- It's also important that you never operate a generator in a house, garage or enclosed building. Doing so will put you and your family at risk of [carbon monoxide](#) poisoning.

Life Support and Outages

If you use home medical devices, such as dialysis machines or neonatal monitors, register with SaskPower to be notified of planned outages.

Call [1\(888\)757-6937](tel:1(888)757-6937) to register for planned outage notifications.