Sometimes unexpected events can cause the power to go out. Other times scheduled outages for routine maintenance or necessary repairs will take place. Learning about outages can help you stay safe and be prepared when they happen.

- Take an inventory of the items you need that rely on electricity.

- Talk to your medical provider about a power outage plan for medical devices powered by electricity and refrigerated medicines. Find out how long medication can be stored at higher temperatures and get specific guidance for any medications that are critical for life.

- Plan for batteries and other alternatives to meet your needs when the power goes out.

- Sign up for local alerts and warning systems. Monitor weather reports, please visit weather.gov for your local weather report.

- Install carbon monoxide detectors with battery backup in central locations on every level of your home.

- Determine whether your home phone will work in a power outage and how long battery backup will last.

- Review the supplies that are available in case of a power outage. Have flashlights with extra batteries for every household member. Have enough nonperishable food and water.

For more information visit: https://www.toaks.org
Having a plan can be your best protection during a local emergency incident.

**PREPARE**

**Basic Emergency Kit Contents**

- Water, one gallon of water per person
- Food, at least a 5-day supply of non-perishable food.
- A battery-powered or hand crank radio
- Family First aid kit
- Whistles for all family members to signal for help
- Dust masks
- Moist towelettes, trash bags and plastic ties
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food
- Local paper maps in place of electronic maps.
- Cell phone and chargers
- Cash on hand

**PLAN**

**Family Emergency Plan**

- Identify an out-of-town contact. It may be easier to contact someone long distance rather than in-town.
- Be sure every member of your family knows the phone number and has a cell phone, coins, or a prepaid phone card to call the emergency contact.
- In case of evacuation make sure all family members have a planned meeting place.
- Consider purchasing a portable generator.

**BE INFORMED**

Sign up for VC-Alerts@readyventuracounty.org or Vcemergency.com for the most current information on local incidents.

Download the FEMA App in your mobile App Store to receive real-time alerts and get emergency safety tips for over 20 types of disasters.