

Even the most reliable electrical service can go off sometimes. Print this list to keep on hand in case your power goes out.

<b>Check and see if your neighbors have electricity.</b> If they do, ask an adult to check your fuses or circuit breakers to rule out problems with electricity inside your home.
<b>Once you're sure it's an outage, call your local electric utility</b> and let them know. Do not call 911 unless you have a real emergency.
Use a battery-powered radio and listen to your local radio station for updates.
Use a flashlight when it gets dark. Avoid candles because of the fire risk.
Turn off power strips and/or unplug computers, TVs, DVD players, as well as any other sensitive appliances. This will avoid possible damage when electricity comes back on.
<b>Turn off all but one of the lights</b> that were on, so you will notice when electricity is restored.
<b>Turn off heat–producing appliances</b> like electric irons and heaters to prevent fires in case no one is home when power is restored.
<b>Traffic lights and railroad crossings may not work.</b> If you are in a car, remind the driver to stop, look, and listen for cross traffic.
If you are stuck in an elevator, stay there and wait for help. Never try to climb out between floors.