

A Disaster Supply Kit

(recommended by the American Red Cross)

Have enough disaster supplies to last for two weeks. Keep items in airtight plastic bags. Replace stored food and water every six months. Rethink your kit and family needs at least once a year. (Replace batteries, update clothes, etc.) Ask your physician or pharmacist about storing prescription medications.

- Emergency food & drinking water
- At least one change of clothes
- Baby food, diapers & formula
- Batteries
- Bleach (without lemon or additives)
- Books, magazines, cards & games
- Butane lighters
- Cash & credit cards
- Camera & film
- Car keys
- Charcoal & lighter fluid
- Clock (non-electric)
- Cooler (with ice)
- Duct & masking tape
- Extension cords
- Fire extinguisher
- First Aid kit
- Flashlight
- Grill or camp stove
- Heavy plastic (for roof if damaged)
- Lantern with extra fuel
- Manual can opener
- Matches
- Medicines, glasses or contact lens supplies
- Mosquito repellent
- Personal identification
- Pet food
- Phone numbers of places you could go.
- Plastic trash bags
- Radio (battery-operated) or TV
- Rope (100 ft.)
- Sleeping bags, pillows & blankets
- Soap & shampoo
- Sturdy shoes
- Toilet paper & towelettes
- Water purification tablets
- Tool kit
 - including hammer, crowbar, nails, saw, gloves, etc.

Emergency Telephone Numbers

Police _____

Fire Department _____

Hospital _____

Utility Companies

Buckeye REC **800-282-7204**

Gas/Fuel Oil _____

Propane _____

Telephone _____

Local Emergency Management Office



Buckeye REC

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

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www.buckeyerec.com

Outage Number – (800) 282-7204

Be Prepared For Power Outages

HOME EMERGENCY PLAN FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY



Outage Number – (800) 282-7204

When severe weather causes power outages, employees of Buckeye REC begin working immediately to restore service as quickly as possible. Primary lines serving hundreds of customers are serviced first, and then the secondary lines serving fewer customers are serviced. Medical facilities and individuals on life-support systems are given top priority. If a family member relies on life-support equipment, make sure your electric cooperative knows ahead of time.

When your lights go out, look outside and see if your neighbors are also in the dark. If they're not, check your fuse box or circuit breaker to see if you can locate the problem.

Don't assume your electric company knows you are without power.

If the outage has affected you or your neighbors, call Buckeye REC toll free at **(800) 231-2732** or call our **outage number at (800) 282-7204**.

Outages that occur in severe weather, or that last for an extended period of time, can place a heavy burden on the system at the moment power is restored.

To prevent an overload on the system and possibly another outage, take these steps:

- Turn off every inside light except one so you'll know when power is restored.
- Turn down your thermostat.
- Turn off all unnecessary appliances and shut off or unplug any sensitive electronic equipment such as TVs and computers. Utilize surge protectors for these items as this can decrease the chance they become damaged from a power outage.
- When power comes back on, slowly switch your appliances and lights back on and gradually return your thermostat to its normal setting.
- Leave your porch light on so line workers will know when your power has been restored.



PLEASE NOTE:

If you use a portable generator, make sure you know what loads it can handle, including start-up wattage. If you connect the generator to your household circuit, you must have a double-pole, double-throw transfer switch installed between the generator and outside power, or the "backfeed" could seriously harm or kill utility line workers.

For your comfort and safety, you should also follow these steps:

- In cold weather, close windows and drapes to save heat. Gather in one room on the warm side of the house (preferably one with a fireplace). Close the door to the rest of the house and use blankets to insulate your windows.
- If the outage lasts over 60 minutes, turn off your electric water heater.
- Make sure your electric kitchen range is off, both the surface and the oven. Never use it for heat.
- Keep candles away from furniture, curtains, or any other flammable material. Never leave children alone in a room with a burning candle or open flame.
- Never try to use outside gas, charcoal, briquette grills or camp stoves to heat your home. They are designed to be used only outdoors where there is enough ventilation due to the amount of toxic fumes they produce. If you use them indoors you will rapidly eliminate the amount of oxygen in your house and increase the carbon monoxide inside your home. Carbon monoxide causes serious intoxication problems and even death.
- Avoid opening the freezer door. A full, free-standing freezer will keep food at freezing temperatures about 2 days; a half-full freezer about 1 day. For more information about food safety during and after a power outage, call your Cooperative Extension Service, or dial the USDA Food Safety Hotline at 1-800-535-4555.
- Try to conserve water use. Homes that are supplied by public water systems often depend on electricity to maintain water supply. Overusing water can result in a water shortage. Limit shower use and try

not to flush the toilet often while there is a power outage.

- **STAY AWAY** from downed power lines including telephone or cable lines and call us at once! Do not touch any object that is in contact with downed power lines and can transmit electricity such as water, metal, etc. Never drive your car over power lines. If a power line falls over your car while you are driving, stay inside your car until you receive appropriate help.
- Establish a designated home-site where family members can gather in the event of an emergency.
- Remember to think about the elderly or disabled relatives and neighbors. They may need help during a power outage.
- Stock up on firewood and necessary supplies for wood burning stoves.
- **FOR OUTSIDE USE ONLY** – Keep the gas grill propane tank filled all year round. It can be used to cook with.
- Remember, interior kitchen GAS stoves can also be used to cook with during a power outage.

Prepare an emergency telephone list to contact the police, fire department, hospital, utility companies, and the local emergency management office. Include your address and telephone number on this list. REMEMBER... cordless phones don't work without power so make daily recharging of your cell phone a habit. Having a well-charged cell phone can come in handy during a power outage.

