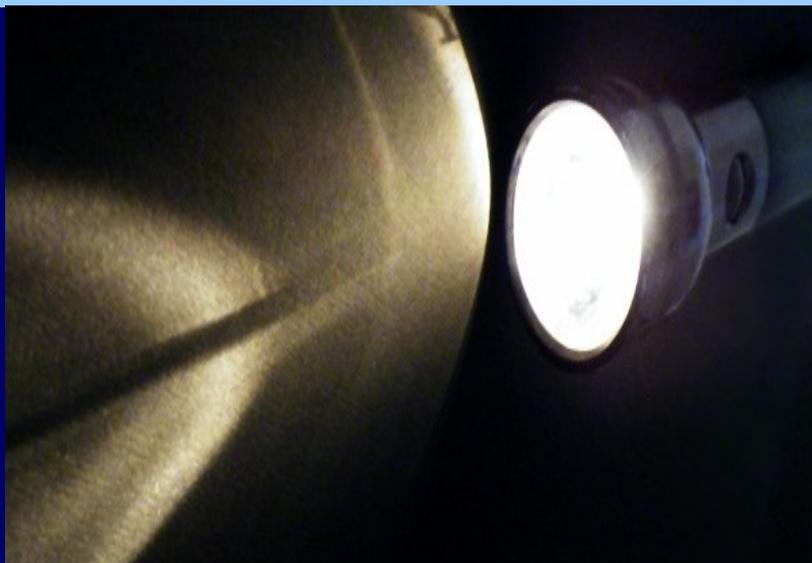


# At-A-Glance

## Power Outages

- Be prepared! Power outages can happen anywhere, and to anyone, so being prepared is important.
- If advised to evacuate your home by emergency officials, evacuate immediately.



### Before a Power Outage...

- To begin preparing, you should build an emergency kit and make a family communications Plan. Check flashlight and radio batteries. Take cash out (ATMs may not work).
- To report a Power Outage, call your electric utility provider or report it online. First Energy customers should call 1-888-544-4877. Cleveland Public Power customers should call 216-664-3156. Before calling, check your main switch or circuit breaker in your house.
- It is good practice to have a corded telephone that works without electricity.
- Avoid opening the refrigerator and freezer when possible.
- Never run a generator inside a home or garage. If using a generator, run it outside and connect the equipment directly to the outlets on the generator. Never attempt to connect a portable generator to an entire home's electrical system.

### Did you know?

The biggest power outage in US history occurred on August 14, 2003 leaving roughly 50 million people without power.

For additional information on power outages, go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

### During a power outage...

- Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed to keep your food as fresh as possible. If you must eat food that was refrigerated or frozen, check it carefully for signs of spoilage.
- Turn off or disconnect appliances, equipment (like air conditioners) or electronics in use when the power went out. Power may return with momentary "surges" or "spikes" that can damage computers as well as motors in appliances like the air conditioner, refrigerator, washer or furnace.

### After a power outage...

- Never taste food or rely on appearance or odor to determine its safety. Some foods may look and smell fine, but if they have been at room temperature too long, bacteria that causes food-borne illnesses can start growing quickly.
- Throw away food that has been exposed to temperatures 40° F (4° C) for 2 hours or more or that has an unusual odor, color, taste.

Sources: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)



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**READY** ✓  
**CUYAHOGA COUNTY**  
Every Person. Every Emergency.