

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDELINES

- 1). Have a sufficient supply of all necessary family (and pet) medications on hand.
- 2). Know your generator safety - Do **not** run a generator inside an enclosed space (to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning/death). If you are back feeding circuits (THIS IS **NOT** RECOMMENDED) to your breaker box, be sure your main breaker is in the OFF position, so you do not endanger electric utility line crews. Fuel the generator with the unit turned off and cooled down.
- 3.) Always avoid downed wires and tree limbs.
- 4.) Have extra non-perishable food, drinking (bottled) water and a manual can opener on hand. Fill your bath tub with water for hand washing and flushing of toilets by bucket. If the power goes out, keep your refrigerator and freezer closed as much as possible to prevent food spoilage.
- 5.) Be sure your cellphone is fully charged and use texting, if possible, during heavy usage times, such as large-scale emergencies.
- 6.) Have extra batteries, portable radio, weather radio and flashlights available.
- 7.) Do not use charcoal or gas grills for cooking indoors or other confined spaces.
- 8.) Secure your pets- make sure they have their collars with tags on in case they become separated from you. Have extra food, water and medications for them.
- 9.) Have a phone that does not require batteries hooked up to your wall socket (hard wired, not a portable hand set).
- 10.) Make sure you have a fully equipped first aid kit available.
- 11.) Do not drive through standing water. Do not travel unless it is an absolute emergency/necessity.
- 12.) Check on your neighbors whenever possible. Work together to ensure everyone's safety and wellness.
- 13.) Do not call 911 if your power goes out. Contact your local electric utility company. However, if you encounter downed lines, stay far away and always call 911 first, then call your local electric utility company.

For more information contact:

Green Mountain Power Company - <https://outages.greenmountainpower.com/> • 888-835-4672

National Weather Service -<https://www.weather.gov/btv/>

Vermont Emergency Management <https://vem.vermont.gov/>

Red Cross - <https://www.redcross.org/local/me-nh-vt.html>