

Power Outage Safety

Power outages can occur due to a range of factors, including severe weather, vehicle collisions, interference from wildlife, equipment malfunctions, or even scheduled maintenance. Rest assured, if the power is out, we are on it!



Before an Outage: Be Prepared

Build an Outage Kit

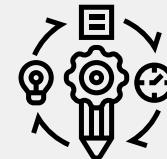
Keep these Essentials on Hand:

- Flashlights (not candles)
- Extra batteries
- Bottled water
- Nonperishable food
- Manual can opener
- First aid kit
- Phone chargers or power banks
- Battery-powered radio
- List of emergency contacts

Make a Plan

Ensure Everyone Knows:

- Where the outage kit is
- How to report an outage
- What to do if someone depends on powered medical equipment



Be Ready

Before the Storm Hits, Be Ready:

- Charge devices in advance
- Refill prescriptions
- Stock up on essentials
- Secure outdoor items

If You Have Children or Infants:

- Have a boredom buster kit: books, puzzles, small games
- Keep baby formula or food ready, along with a manual bottle warmer or water heater

Protect Your Electronics:

- Use surge protectors and unplug sensitive devices during storms to avoid damage

The time to restore power depends on several factors, including:



Extent of the storm's destruction



Utility equipment damage severity



Number and extent of outages



Accessibility to damaged equipment

During an Outage: Stay Safe



Here's What to Do

Stay Calm and Informed:

- Use a battery-powered or hand-crank radio for updates.
- Check tvec.net or SmartHub for outage information.

Appliance and Electrical Safety

- Turn off major appliances to avoid overload.
- Leave one light on to indicate power restoration.
- Unplug sensitive electronics to prevent surge damage.
- Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed.

Generator Safety

- Use generators safely: Never run indoors or near vents.
- Never plug a generator directly into a wall outlet.
- Use heavy-duty outdoor-rated extension cords.

Personal and Family Safety:

- Avoid unnecessary travel due to potential hazards.
- Check on vulnerable neighbors.
- Keep flashlights with fresh batteries in each room.

Pet Safety:

- Keep pets indoors and have extra supplies ready.
- Provide familiar items to keep pets calm.

How We Respond to Outages:

Assessment Begins

Crews are dispatched to assess damage and prioritize safety hazards like downed lines.

Critical Services Restored First

Hospitals, water systems, and emergency responders come first.

Substations and Main Lines

Restoring power to the most people as quickly as possible.

Tap Lines and Individual Homes

Smaller outages are repaired last.

Downed power line?

Always assume lines are energized. Report downed lines to TVEC or call 911.



TRINITY VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE