

HAZARDS AND THREATS

Power Outages

Rotating Electric Outages - Preparedness

Power Outages can cause a number of safety concerns; knowing the following information can help. During excessive hot weather conditions, energy shortages are possible creating a potential emergency for residents, renters and business owners in the Los Angeles County Operational Area. This could lead to temporary planned rotating electricity outages.

Before a Rotating Electric Power Outage

Conserve Energy

- When home, set your thermostat at 78 degrees during summer and 68 degrees during winter time.
- Don't use large appliances such as air conditioner, pool pump, clothes washer and electric dryer during peak times:
 - Winter Hours: 5-9 a.m. and 4-8 p.m.
 - Peak Summer Hours: 12 noon-6 p.m.
- Close drapes and blinds to keep heat/cold out.
- Weather-strip doors and windows.
- Replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs.
- Limit decorative lighting.

General Tips

- Have flashlights, radios and clocks, with extra batteries.
- Individuals with disabilities, access and functional needs should be ready for electric outages.
- If you have a generator, read the instructions and know how to operate it safely.

- Plan ahead with your Neighborhood Watch Group and/or Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).
- Know how to operate your garage door without electricity.
- Have a non-cordless telephone in case of an electrical outage
- Having a working, non-electric smoke detector (battery powered)
- Use stairs, instead of elevators, during outages

During a Rotating Electric Power Outage

Recommendation to DO the Following:

- Stay alert and calm.
- Use flashlights or light sticks for lighting (be careful when using candles inside a house or building – follow fire codes and instruction).
- Turn off all appliances.
- Turn off all but one light switch.
- Listen to the radio for information.
- Check on those with disabilities, access and functional needs
- Stop at all non-working traffic signals and proceed when safe.

Recommendation to DO NOT DO the Following:

- Do not call 911 due to a power outage only used if it is a life threatening.
- Do not assume other motorist drivers will stop for you at non-working traffic signals.
- Do not use candles for lighting in the house or business (potential fire hazard).
- Do not use oven for heating (potential fire hazard and carbon monoxide poisoning).

- Do not use barbecue indoors for heating (potential fire hazard and carbon monoxide poisoning).
- Do not use barbecues indoor for cooking (potential fire hazard and carbon monoxide poisoning).
- Do not use propane indoors (potential fire hazard – explosion).

After a Rotating Electric Power Outage

- Continue to conserve energy.
- Reset all electrical equipment safely.
- Continue to drive safely...Remember power may be out in other areas.

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