**Preparation Tips**

- Have an adequate supply of prescription medicines and any necessary infant supplies on hand.
- If you use medical equipment at home that requires electricity, make sure you charge the battery.
- If you or someone you know uses life-support equipment that requires electricity to operate, charge the battery, identify a location with emergency power capabilities and make plans to go there during a prolonged outage.
- If you are in an area subject to an evacuation order, heed the order and move to a safe location.
- Develop an evacuation plan in case it’s needed. Communicate the plan to your family. Include pets or livestock in your plan.
- Fuel your vehicles as a loss of power could affect gas stations.
- Assemble an emergency storm kit (battery-powered radio, flashlight, first-aid kit, battery-powered or wind-up clock, extra batteries, special needs items, insulated cooler, and a list of important and emergency phone numbers).
- Have a telephone with a cord or an extra charged cellphone to use as a back-up (cordless telephones won’t work during an outage).
- Keep at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food and bottled water and have a hand-operated can opener available.
- Have supplies for your propane or charcoal grill; be sure to grill outdoors in well-ventilated areas for safety.
- Secure outdoor items; safely store lawn furniture, decorations, toys, garbage cans and other items that can be brought indoors.
- Protect your electronic equipment: unplug sensitive electronics or plug computers and other sensitive equipment into surge suppressors. Consider an uninterruptible power supply, such as a generator.

**Safety Tips**

- Follow the advice of your local emergency management and health officials.
- Stay away from downed wires. Storm debris can hide downed power lines, so be extra cautious.
- Practice caution around crews and equipment. Do not approach crews for updates or to report outages.
- Storm debris can hide downed power lines, so be extra cautious. Any dangling line or lines on the ground covered by water can be deadly.
- Do not enter flooded areas, which can conceal downed wires or other potential hazards.
- Tune in to local news broadcasts for the latest weather and emergency information.
- Contact local health department or emergency management offices about shelters that can assist you during a prolonged outage. If you have a medical emergency, call or go to the hospital.

---

**Report your outage using any method below:**

- Visit DEMCO.org homepage and click ‘Report Outage’
- Text OUTAGE to 225-261-1177
- Call 1-844-MyDEMCO (1-844-693-3626) Option 1
- Download the MyDEMCO mobile app available for Android and iOS

Visit DEMCO.org/Storm-Center for additional preparedness and safety resources.