

WHAT TO DO DURING POWER OUTAGES



A Guide for Food Facilities

Power outages may result from storms, natural disasters, fires, or planned by a utility company for maintenance work or other purposes. The loss of power can pose serious health and safety issues at food facilities. In the event of a power outage, here is what you must do:

**SAFETY
FIRST**

Food Facilities



- Cease operation until power is restored.
- Environmental Health inspectors may visit the impacted area to verify that your facility has ceased operation.
- If refrigerator and freezer doors are not opened, safe food temperatures below 40°F can be maintained for several hours. The length of time depends on ambient air temperature, how well the refrigerator is insulated, and its temperature prior to the outage.
- When power is restored, take into consideration the length of the outage and then check food temperatures to determine if your food is still safe.
- If perishable foods are above 40°F for more than two hours, discard the food item.
- **WHEN IN DOUBT THROW IT OUT!**

WHAT TO DO DURING POWER OUTAGES



A Guide for Public Pool and Spa Facilities

Power outages may result from storms, natural disasters, fires, or planned by a utility company for maintenance work or other purposes. The loss of power can also pose serious health and safety issues for swimming pools and spas. In the event of a power outage, here is what you must do:

**SAFETY
FIRST**

Public Pools/Spas



- Cease operation until power is restored.
- Environmental Health inspectors may visit impacted area to verify that your facility has ceased operation.
- When power is restored, verify that the filtration and treatment system is working properly and that pool chemistry meets the required standard prior to reopening and allowing people to use the pool or spa.
- For extended outages, you may need to run the filtration and treatment system for several hours and then verify pool chemistry.
- When in doubt have your pool service company check the pool or spa prior to reopening.

Caution:

If the pool or spa is on an automatic control system, restarting the system after an extended shut-down of the pump may result in the release of chlorine gas.

Note: Public pools and spas include hotels, motels, health clubs, municipal facilities, water parks, apartments, condominiums, and homeowner associations.