

PREPARING YOUR BUSINESS FOR POWER OUTAGES

Businesses should prepare for power outages to minimize disruptions, protect assets, and ensure continuity during unexpected power failures. Outages can lead to lost revenue, halted operations, and safety risks for employees and customers. Here are a few tips to start your business preparedness.

KNOW THE HAZARDS

Power outages can impact:

- Communication infrastructure and ability to charge cell phones
- Driving conditions when traffic signals are not working
- Ability to charge electric vehicles
- Electric powered garage doors
- Water supply
- Food safety and storage
- Medication refrigeration
- Ability to use durable medical equipment

RESOURCES

- Xcel Energy is the authorized utility provider responsible for delivering electrical power to Louisville residents. During power outages, information is accessible through their website: <https://co.my.xcelenergy.com>
- Boulder Office of Disaster Management has developed a guide to preparing for power outages, specific to Boulder County residents, available on their [website](#).

WAYS TO PREPARE



Create a Plan

A Business Continuity Plan should highlight how you will adapt goods and services and should include solutions for the most likely interruptions. No business is too small to have a plan!



Communicate

Does staff know who to contact if there is an emergency? Do a yearly check to make sure contact information is up to date for employees, vendors, city and emergency contacts.



Backup Power

Where able, install backup power and have a power backup plan (such as perishables/freezer plan).

Learn more about ways to prepare



Want to Learn More About Preparedness?

Visit Resilient Louisville:
LouisvilleCO.gov/ResilientLouisville

FAQ's

Commonly Heard From Other Businesses About Power Outages



Why are we experiencing more power outages?

Xcel Energy is the authorized utility provider responsible for the delivery of electrical power to Louisville residents and businesses. Xcel has implemented new strategies for wildfire mitigation, including "Public Safety Power Shutoffs" (PSPS). These shut-offs have caused more outages than our community has experienced in years past. A PSPS is a risk mitigation option where power is shut off to a targeted area for a limited duration when wildfire risks are extremely high. Xcel may implement a PSPS during high wind events or other weather events where wildfire risks are high. Learn more on Xcel Energy's website: my.xcelenergy.com/s/outage-safety/wildfires



How can businesses prepare for food storages?

Power outages may impact refrigeration and freezer temperatures, which can impact the safety and quality of consumable products. Regularly monitoring refrigeration temperatures and having clear emergency procedures in place can help minimize losses and ensure safe operations during disruptions. Health Safety Tip: Dispose of refrigerated food if power has been out for 4+ hours - check on public health guidelines for more info.



Will the City communicate important information to the community during power outages?

If Xcel Energy implements a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS), or an unplanned widespread outage occurs, the City will work with Xcel to communicate the outage impacts to residents as quickly as possible.

Xcel customers can check the outage status via Xcel's [outage map](#). If your power is out, but the outage does not show on the map, [report an outage](#) via Xcel's website.

For power outages impacting City facilities or that are expected to last several days, the City will provide updates through the "[City News/Important Updates](#)" email/text list, among other channels such as social media and traditional media. While we can't predict outages, we will do our best to get critical information, including resources and impacts to facilities, to our community in a timely manner.



How can businesses prepare their staff for power outages and emergencies?

Every business, no matter the size, should prepare for power outages. Communicate your emergency plan clearly with staff, and run regular drills or exercises to ensure everyone knows their role. Training builds confidence and keeps operations safer and more resilient.

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