



Power for medical devices when the lights go out.

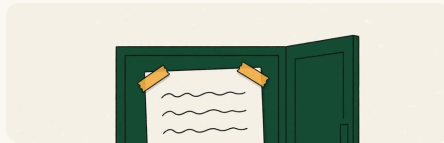
CPAP, oxygen, refrigerated medicine, a power chair: what keeps running, and who to call before the shutoff.

1 Enroll in Medical Baseline now



- Your utility's program for homes with medical equipment
- Extra notice before a planned shutoff, and a lower rate
- A form your doctor signs; takes minutes online

2 Make the list



- Every device, its plug, and how long it runs on battery
- Which ones are life-sustaining and which are comfort
- Tape it inside the kitchen cabinet by the breaker

3 CPAP: a battery made for it



- The device maker's DC battery pack runs it all night
- Humidifier and heated tube off doubles the hours
- A portable power station works too, on the DC cord

4 Oxygen: tanks as the backup



- A concentrator needs more power than most batteries give
- Ask the supplier for backup cylinders before fire season
- Tell the utility, the supplier and a neighbor you use oxygen

5 Refrigerated medicine



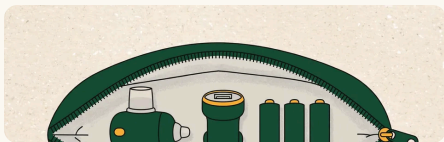
- A small cooler with ice packs, never touching the ice
- Follow the label for how long it can stay at room temperature
- Pharmacist on the phone list for a replacement

6 Power chairs and scooters



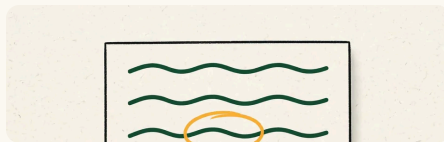
- Charge to full on the night of the notice
- A manual chair or a plan for one as the backup
- Know who can help with stairs if the elevator is out

7 Nebulizers, pumps, monitors



- Battery models or a car adapter for the small ones
- Spare batteries in the device bag
- Hand-held alternatives when the maker offers them

8 Dialysis and treatments



- The clinic has an emergency plan; ask for it in writing
- Where you go if your clinic is dark
- Rides arranged before the day, not on it

9 The power station, sized right



- Add up the device watts for one night, then double it
- Lithium iron phosphate cells last years
- Charged and tested before fire season

10 Never a generator indoors



- Outdoors only, twenty feet from windows
- Carbon monoxide has no smell
- A battery runs the medical gear; the generator runs the fridge

11 The second place to go



- A relative outside the shutoff zone, or a hotel with power
- Community resource centers the utility opens during shutoffs
- The hospital is the last resort, not the plan

12 Tell three people



- A neighbor with a key who checks in twice a day
- The out-of-area contact knows the device list
- Alerts signed up for on two phones

Enroll, charge, and have a second place to go. The battery is the easy part.

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