

Here are some outage and storm tips:

1. While you are waiting for IMLD crews to arrive, turn off all appliances that turn on automatically when power is restored, including refrigerators, televisions, water pumps and furnaces. Leave one light on so you will know when the power is back on and one outside light so the linemen know the power is restored. Once power has been restored, gradually reconnect appliances and reset clocks and timers.
2. Unplug all unnecessary appliances and electric equipment such as stereos, TVs and computers.
3. Avoid opening your refrigerator or freezer (your food should stay fresh for at least 24 hours if the door is seldom opened).
4. To help prepare your family for power outages caused by storms, make sure you have the following available:
 - Flashlight and batteries
 - Battery-powered radio
 - Candles and matches
 - Extra food and water
 - First aid supplies and medicine
 - Fire extinguisher
5. **Do not plug a backup generator into an outlet in your home.** Generators should be connected to a transfer switch only. If you connect to an outlet, the power from your generator will flow backwards into our distribution system and may seriously injure or kill our linemen. Never run your generator indoors. Generators create CO₂, an odorless, tasteless, and invisible gas that can kill.
6. Do not burn charcoal for heat—it gives off dangerous fumes. In addition, a fireplace may pull more warm air from a house than it gives out.
7. Stay tuned to a local radio station for important information about outages