

# PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)

June 2019

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This winter and spring was very wet for Northern California. This summer is expected to be hotter than average. The wet spring and summer greatly added to the fuel load by increasing the growth of grasses and brush. When all of our forest dry out by July, Northern California is looking at another year of increased wildfire danger.

To avoid a repeat of the Camp Fire, PG&E will start turning off power to entire gridlines of areas impacted by increased fire danger (high winds, low humidity, and very hot temperatures). This plan is called Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS). PG&E implemented this plan during the weekend of June 8-9 and anticipate they will turn off power in similar situations until rains return in the fall. You must sign up with PG&E to receive alerts and notifications about future shutoffs, and you can do so by [clicking here](#).

## Prepare Now

- ✓ **Keep important phone numbers** handy (doctor, pharmacy, police, relatives, friends, FNRC, etc.) in case you need emergency assistance.
- ✓ **Medications & Prescriptions:** Make sure you have a centralized location for all medications and a storage item near by such as a bag to gather your medications. Also, make sure to write down all prescription numbers for refills and keep this in your purse or wallet.
- ✓ **Have a plan for power outages:** Figure out what you might do/where you might go if you do not have power. Identify cooling locations (library, mall, friends, etc.). If you depend on power life-support equipment, discuss this with your doctor, family, and FNRC Service Coordinator.
- ✓ **Phones:** Cordless phones do not work without power. Purchase an old-style corded phone for emergencies. Make sure cell phones are charged up.
- ✓ **Lights:** Make sure you have flashlights and other battery-powered lights for extended periods without power. Avoid candles as they increase fire danger.
- ✓ **Garage Door:** If you have a powered garage door opener, make sure you can open it during an outage in the event of an outage or actual fire. Alternatively, park outside when planned outages are announced.
- ✓ **Keep Food Cold:** Keep your freezer and refrigerator closed as much as possible. Keep extra ice in the freezer and put it into plastic bags in the refrigerator.
- ✓ **Non-Perishable Food and Water:** Make sure you have bottled water on hand and foods that do not require cooking or cold storage. Plan on several days without power.
- ✓ **Unplug Electronics:** Use surge protectors for all electronic equipment (computers, televisions, etc.) before outages. Unplug all items before the power returns to avoid damaging surges.
- ✓ **Apply for PG&E's Medical Baseline Program:** If eligible, entitles people with disabilities and intense power needs a reduced rate for electricity and gives members early notification of power outages.
- ✓ **Local News:** Make sure have a battery powered radio to keep abreast of local news. Before outages, watch local news or follow them on social media to obtain real-time updates.

Below are some resources to obtain more information about the PSPS plan and ways for you and your family to prepare for increased power outages this summer.

[Sign-up for PG&E Power Shutoff Alerts](#) (also to update addresses if you moved)

[PG&E Medical Baseline Program](#) (see above)

PG&E Fact Sheet: [The Power Of Being Prepared](#)

[PG&E – Wildfire Safety Page](#) (how to prepare your property)

[PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff FAQ](#) (Frequently Asked Questions)

[Power Shut off Alerts FAQ](#) (Frequently Asked Questions)

[View or Report Power Outages](#)