Earl's Fridge-Door Power Outage Plan

Fill it in now, in pencil. Keep it on your fridge. **When the power goes out**

Fridge clock

Power went out at _____ **AM / PM** **Date** _____

Fridge safe until _____ Add 4 hours. Keep the door shut.

Freezer safe until _____ Full: about 2 days. Half full: about 1 day.

Fridge thermometer _____ **°F** 40°F or colder is safe.

When in doubt, throw it out. Never taste food to check it.

The first hour

- ☐ Check your breaker. Whole street dark? Report it to your power company.
- ☐ Unplug electronics. Power can surge when it comes back.
- ☐ Leave one lamp switched on, so you know when power is back.
- ☐ Keep the fridge and freezer shut.
- ☐ Flashlights, not candles.
- ☐ Turn on a battery radio. Save your phone battery for emergencies.
- ☐ Check on the older neighbor who lives alone. If it's safe, knock.
- ☐ See a power line down? Stay 35 feet away. Call the power company.

Cold night: stay warm

- ☐ Pick one room. Close off the rooms you're not using.
- ☐ Towel under the door. Curtains closed, blankets over windows at night.
- ☐ Layer up: hats, socks, blankets, sleeping bags.
- ☐ Everyone in that one room: kids, grandparents, the dog too.

Numbers on paper (phones die)

Power co. outage line _____

Out-of-town contact _____

Neighbor _____

Doctor / pharmacy _____

Too cold or hot? Go to _____

NEVER heat your home with a gas oven or stove.

NEVER run a grill, camp stove or generator inside, or in the garage, even with the doors open. Generators go outside, at least 20 feet from doors, windows and vents.

Carbon monoxide has no color or smell. **Headache, dizzy, sick to your stomach or confused? Get everyone outside, then call 911.** Keep a battery CO alarm near where you sleep.

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Do this on a normal day. **Get ready before it goes out**

Water

1 gallon per person, per day, for at least 3 days.

_____ **people × 3 =** ☐ **gal**

A family of 4 needs 12 gallons. Two weeks is better. Hot weather can double it. Count pets too.

Have these ready

- ☐ One flashlight per person, plus extra batteries. Skip candles.
- ☐ A battery or hand-crank radio.
- ☐ A charged power bank for your phone.
- ☐ Cash in small bills. Card readers and ATMs can go down.
- ☐ 7 days of your medicines.

3-day food box **(no cooking, no fridge)**

Food	For 1 adult, 3 days	× people	= Total	Got
Peanut butter	Half a 16 oz jar			☐
Crackers	1 box (16 oz)			☐
Canned tuna or chicken	3 cans (5 oz)			☐
Canned beans	2 cans (15 oz)			☐
Canned fruit	3 cans (15 oz)			☐
Granola bars	6 bars			☐
Shelf-stable milk	3 boxes (8 oz)			☐
Manual can opener	Keep it IN the box with the food.			☐
Your family's pick:				☐

About 2,000 calories a day per adult. Kids need about half. **Buy what your family already eats.** Peanut allergy? Sunflower seed butter. Finish an open can or milk box at one meal.

Medicine and machines

Medicine that needs the fridge _____

Machine that needs power _____

Battery lasts about _____ hours

☐ On my power company's medical list (Texas: Critical Care). It doesn't promise power. Have a backup.

Insulin: OK out of the fridge up to 28 days at 59 to 86°F. Never use it if it froze.

Check on someone

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Knock if it's safe. Ask: Are you warm? Water, light, medicine? Anything you need run on power?