



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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JOSEPH DIGIROLAMO  
Mayor

FREDERICK A. HARRAN  
Director of Public Safety

### Bensalem Township Emergency Management.

#### UPDATE

**Power outage**- PECO advised that power may not be restored for an "EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME".

We are asking those effected to seek shelter with family or friends until power is restored. If you are unable to seek shelter the regional Red Cross shelter has opened up and is fully staffed at Maple Point Middle School, 2250 Langhorne-Yardley Rd. This is a comfort station shelter at this time.

**Downed trees and debris**- Bensalem Public Works are currently removing trees and debris that are obstructing traffic on Township Roads only. PENNDOT is handling State Roads. All trees and debris on private property are the responsibility of the property owner

#### HERE ARE SAFETY TIPS THAT YOU SHOULD FOLLOW FROM THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

#### When the lights go out

- Check on elderly neighbors and those who might need additional assistance.

If you are going to use a generator, do not run it inside a home or garage. If you use a generator, connect the equipment you want to power directly to the outlets on the generator. Do not connect a generator to a home's electrical system. Generators also should not be run near any open windows or other areas where carbon monoxide may travel into the home such as air vents.

- Turn off lights and electrical appliances except for the refrigerator and freezer. When power comes back on, it may come back with momentary "surges" or "spikes" that can damage equipment. After you turn the lights off, turn one lamp on so you will know when power is restored. Wait at least 15 minutes after power is restored before turning on other appliances.

- Only use a flashlight or battery-operated lanterns for emergency lighting. **Do not use candles.**



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- Avoid opening the refrigerator and freezer. Food can stay cold for a couple of hours if the doors remain closed. For longer outages, plan to place refrigerator and freezer items in coolers with ice. If in doubt, throw it out. The state Department of Agriculture has more information on food safety.

Use a phone that does not require electricity to work. Remember a cordless phone won't work without electricity. Cable and VoIP service will not work. However, customers should familiarize themselves with their in-home equipment and locate the battery backup that will allow for a 911 call, if needed.

- Keep your cellular phones charged. A cellular phone or corded phone on a landline may work if you are using traditional phone service.

### Driving during a power outage

- Eliminate unnecessary travel, especially by car. Traffic signals will stop working during an outage, creating traffic congestion. If traffic lights are out, treat all intersections as four-way stops. It's required by law for safety.

- Stay away from downed power lines and sagging trees with broken limbs.

### Downed power lines

- Don't touch or get near any fallen lines. **THEY MAY BE LIVE WIRES**
- Stay away from objects or puddles in contact with downed power lines.
- Notify the utility company.
- Never try to remove trees or limbs from power lines.

### WHEN IN DOUBT CALL 911