



### Tips to prepare for a possible power outage:

- Identify what critical systems and processes you need to maintain during a power outage.
- Keep your local electric utility supplier phone number handy to report any outages and to keep track of when restoration will occur.
- Develop a kit with essential items – battery, crank or solar-operated flashlights, lanterns, radios, and extra batteries, as well as candles (votives, tea lights or jar candles) with lighters/matches. Use extreme caution if using stick candles.
- Invest in a generator to provide power to those essential areas of your facility (animal areas, business office, clinic/vet space). Learn and practice safe generator handling and store extra gasoline to operate the generator. Consider installing carbon monoxide detectors in animal and staff areas for protection.
- If dealing with extreme hot or cold temperatures, consider investing in fans or heat lamps that can be operated in those essential spaces kept powered by the generator. Use extreme caution when utilizing heat lamps.
- Keep a printed phone list for staff and external partners (scheduled deliveries/transport, etc.) to notify about the outage.
- Regularly print any necessary paperwork that may be needed before an outage or consider saving pertinent documents to a thumb-drive if the printers are impacted by the outage.
- Make sure to have power banks or car charging cables for all types of cell phones. Keep cell phones and two-way radios charged as landlines will likely not be working. Cell phone connectivity may also be inundated or disrupted so remember that SMS texting may be the best option to communicate.
- Procure coolers of ice to help with any medications or essential items that need to be kept cold/refrigerated.
- Create an alternate plan for animals that are reliant on power-dependent medical devices to survive.
- Disconnect appliances and electronics to avoid damage from electrical surges.
- Consider investing in headlamps to use around gallon jugs of water. Simply slip the headlamp around the filled water container to amplify the light source. Make sure to keep back-up batteries.