

# **GET READY! Kent County**

## **Emergency Preparation**

**[www.accessKent.com/getready](http://www.accessKent.com/getready)**

*Disasters happen anytime and anywhere.*

*When disaster strikes, it is easier to cope when you are prepared.*

*Here's what to do when the power goes out from **GET READY! Kent County**.*

### **ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES TO HAVE BEFORE POWER GOES OUT**

- Flashlight (*due to the risk of fire, do not use candles*)
- Batteries
- Portable Radio
- First Aid Kit
- At least one gallon of water per person for a week
- A small supply of food
- Medications for at least one week

### **ACTION STEPS TO TAKE BEFORE A POWER OUTAGE**

- Backup computer files and operating systems regularly.
- If you have an electric garage door opener, locate the manual release lever and learn how to use it.
- Have at least one phone that is not powered by electricity (an old rotary phone, for example). Cordless phones may not work if the main base is electric.
- Keep your car fuel tank at least half full because gas stations rely on electricity to power their pumps.

### **DURING A BLACKOUT**

- Turn off or disconnect any appliances, equipment or electronics you were using when the power went out.
- Leave one light turned on so you know when the power returns.
- Leave the doors of the refrigerator and freezer closed to keep your food as fresh as possible.
- Use the phone for emergencies only.
- Listen to a portable radio for the latest information.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions for portable generators. Never use generators indoors or in garages; make sure there is clearance for fumes to move away from the home.
- Do not call 911 for information.
- If it is hot outdoors, take steps to remain cool. Move to the lowest level of your home as cool air falls.
- Drink plenty of water, even if you do not feel thirsty.
- If it is cool outdoors, put on layers of warm clothing.
- Remember to provide plenty of fresh, cool water for your pets.



**HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT**  
*Caring today for a healthy tomorrow*



**American  
Red Cross**