

Winter is here, and with it increased chance of storms. Imagine what it might be like without electricity, meaning no heat or hot water? And what if the power is out for several days?

Here are a few starts to being prepared:

- Register with Linn-Benton Alert (<https://www.co.benton.or.us/preparedness/page/emergency-alert>)
- Register with Corvallis-Alert (<https://www.corvallisoregon.gov/fire/page/corvallis-alert-emergency-notifications>)
- Read Pacific Power's website for preparedness tips (www.pacificpower.net)
- Make your plan NOW. What will you do?
- Learn if any of the area motels have generators. Staying at a motel may be your best plan.
- Practice how to open your garage door without electric garage door opener
- Check if your gas fireplace works without electricity... that could be your source of heat!
- Store extra supplies, including flashlights, batteries, ready-to-eat foods, battery powered radio and bottled water (come to next work shop on preparing emergency kits)
- Keep cash on hand and gas tank at least half full.
- Locate electrical supply panels and learn how to check for tripped breakers. When there is a power failure:
 - Look around your neighborhood to see if it is only your home or if it is everyone.
 - Call Pacific Power's status hotline to determine expected time to restore power (877-508-5088)
 - Turn OFF most light switches to minimize power surge when the power comes back on. Turn ON an outside light and one inside light so the power company and you can see when the power is back on.
- Implement your plan: go to a motel; turn on your gas fireplace; prepare your bed with extra blankets; etc.