

Long term power grid failure checklist

Necessary Supplies to Stock Up On

If your main goal is to bug in, you will want to stock up on some key supplies. If your goal is to bug out, you will want to have at least a 3-day supply of food in your home and the majority of your supplies in your bug out location.

The following items will mean the difference between riding out a long term power failure in relative comfort or struggling every minute of the day.

Food

The following list are some of the foods you want to start stocking up on.

- Canned meats i.e. tuna, Spam, chicken, corned beef hash
- Canned vegetables—whatever your family eats
- Canned fruit
- Dried beans
- Dried grains i.e. oats, wheat
- Freeze-dried dairy products i.e. milk, butter, cheese
- Canned soups and chili
- Rice
- Freeze-dried meals—these are quick, easy meals that only require a small amount of water to make ready to eat
- Peanut butter
- Variety of spices
- Jerky

Water

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Water is a must-have. You can buy commercially bottled water and store it in a cool, dark place for years. If you are going to bottle your own water, it is important you use proper containers. Do not use old milk jugs!

These are acceptable containers you can wash and reuse for water storage.

- Plastic juice bottles
- 2-liter soda bottles
- Ice tea jugs

You only want to use plastics that are thick and not the flimsy plastic gallon jugs milk and some juice products come in.

Before you put your home-bottled water on the shelf:

- Treat it to ensure bacteria doesn't grow.
- Adding a single drop or two of standard, unscented household bleach will keep your water fresh.
- Only store home-bottled water on the shelf for 6 months.
- Date the containers before placing them in your pantry.
- When they are close to becoming outdated, dump out the water and wash the container with dish soap. Rinse thoroughly and reuse.

For larger quantities of water in a cistern or rain barrel, it is important the vessels are dark and not exposed to direct sunlight. Sunlight sparks algae growth. Water in barrels or cisterns needs to be treated before drinking.

Other Items

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There are some other things you will want to have on hand to deal with a downed power grid. Let's start with some basic necessities.

- Personal hygiene products i.e. shampoo, soap, toilet paper, feminine hygiene items, toothpaste, toothbrushes
- Medical supplies i.e. first aid kit that is stocked to last for months
- Flashlights, candles, lanterns, extra batteries
- Fuel for emergencies
- Baby supplies if needed
- Garbage bags
- Aluminum foil
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Along with basic necessities, you will need some tools to help make life a little easier.

- Hand can-opener
- Hand mixer
- Hand grinder
- Ax—for chopping fire wood
- Gardening tools i.e. shovel, rake, pick, hoe
- Duct tape
- Fishing gear
- Bow for hunting
- Sewing kit
- Cast iron cookware
- Washboard
- Jerry cans for gasoline

P.S. If you want to learn more about being prepared, [here's a step by step system](#), that tells you **EXACTLY** what you need to do to prepare yourself and your family for a disaster. [Click Here](#)

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