



Preparing for Bad Weather

Storms bring the possibility of loss of electricity, loss of heat, loss of water, closing of roads, and flooding. Start preparing as soon as you know a storm is coming, at least 1-3 days before the predicted bad weather. Along with loss of services, storms can lead to difficulty in receiving supplies both during and after bad weather. Here are a few suggestions to help you prepare, some of these can be done well in advance of a storm and others several days before:

Loss of Electricity:

- Register your child with the special care registry for your state and renew yearly.
- Contact your local fire department rescue services to make sure they are aware of your child's special care needs.
- Have contact numbers available for your community medical services (police, fire and ambulance).
- Have a supply of flashlights and batteries.
- Fully charge all electrical equipment and batteries.
- Do not use candles or any fire if you have supplemental oxygen in the home.
- Consider buying a generator for your home.
- If you have a generator, have enough fuel for several days.
- If you lose electricity and are running low on battery supply, contact local emergency services for assistance and/or go to either a local shelter or hospital for care.

Travel Bag:

- Review list of supplies in your child's travel bag.
- Refill travel bag with all supplies needed.
- Make sure you have updated copies of your child's Respiratory Care Plan, Emergency Care Plan, and Medication list in the travel bag.
- Have the travel bag easily available in case you lose power or need to leave your home.

Supplies:

- Keep a list of all of your child's medical supplies.
- Review the quantity of all the supplies you have at home.
- Make a list of anything that is missing or of which you have less than a 1-2 week supply including medical supplies, formula, and oxygen.
- With loss of electricity, the oxygen concentrator will not work; make sure you have oxygen tanks to supply oxygen for 2-3 days.
- Contact your child's home care company about any items that you need.

Medications:

- Have a list of all your child's medications
 - o prescription and over the counter
 - o daily medications and medications that are taken as needed or when sick.
- Make sure you have a 1-2 week supply of all medications.
- Contact pharmacy for refills.
- Contact medical provider if prescriptions need to be sent to pharmacy.

Communication:

- Consider having both a land line and a wireless phone. (sometime phone lines are down and sometimes cell towers are down)
- Keep your wireless phone fully charged.
- Have a land phone available that does not require electricity for use.

Water:

- If you require electricity to receive water in your home, make sure you have a clean water supply for several days of use.

Do Not Forget to Buy Bread and Milk