



Power Outage

Classroom and Assembly Spaces



Faculty and reception personnel should instruct the class/assembly to remain in place and await the restoration of power.



If power does not return in 15 minutes, an orderly evacuation should be attempted. Dial 911 for assistance in conducting an evacuation.

Residence Halls



Do not use candles or other open flames for lighting or heat sources.



Turn off any appliances, including stoves, in order to prevent them restarting unattended when power is restored.

Laboratories



Once human and animal health and safety are secure, ensure experiments, equipment, and machinery are stabilized and safe.



Cease work, close containers in fume hoods and close the sash. In most buildings, the fume hoods are not connected to generator power.



Avoid opening environmental room, refrigerator, or freezer doors until power is restored.



Maintain a log of equipment that must be reset, restarted, or that requires special attention following an outage.



For an extended power outage, consider consolidating materials in freezers and using dry ice.



Equipment that runs unattended should be programmed to shut down safely and not restart once the power returns.

Generating power, space heating, or cooking

When using alternate sources of power, space heating, or cooking, beware of their primary hazards:



Carbon monoxide poisoning



Electric shock



Fire

After a Power Outage



Throw away food that has been exposed to temperatures 41F or higher.



Check appliances to be sure they weren't left on and unattended when the power went out

Resources

Campus Planning, Infrastructure, and Facilities
540-231-4300

Virginia Tech Electric Service
540-231-6467

If power fails in a campus building after hours,
call the Virginia Tech Police Department
540-231-4300