



# After a Storm

Attend to the safety and well-being of your family and pets

## Home Actions

- » Make emergency repairs, if necessary.
- » Do not travel when wind speeds are sustained at speeds 35 mph or higher, and unless absolutely necessary.
- » Wait until the winds have subsided and it is safe for you to travel before returning to work.

## If you lose power

- » Check all circuit breakers or fuses to help determine if your service outage might be the result of a household problem.
- » If you have significant water damage in your home that might make it unsafe, call a licensed electrician for advice.
- » Visually inspect the area outside your home near the meter. If the meter or any of the piping or wires on the wall of your home is gone or look damaged, an electrician will need to make an inspection and repairs because FPL crews are not permitted to work on the weatherhead or other parts of your home's wiring. Power cannot be restored until this area is intact.
- » Make sure appliances are turned off or unplugged to avoid a power surge or other damage when power is restored.
- » If you plan to use a generator, follow the guidelines and safety precautions included with your generator. See the Generator Safety document at the Hurricane Information Depot, After the Storm, At Home.
- » Do not touch any electrical equipment or power lines around the electrical equipment.
- » Listen to your local radio news on a battery-powered radio for regular updates from FPL. Assume that FPL is aware of mass outages. However, if your neighbors have power and you don't, have your account number and call **1-800-4OUTAGE**.

## Make sure food and water are safe

- » If you lose power, keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed. Food usually stays frozen about 48 hours. A refrigerator can keep food cold for about 48 hours.
- » If you are using a generator, refrigerators may only need to run a few hours a day to preserve food. Aim to maintain 40 degrees in the refrigerator compartment and 0 degrees in the freezer.
- » Always wash your hands with soap and water that has been boiled or disinfected when preparing or eating food, after participating in food cleanup activities; after handling articles contaminated with flood water or sewage.
- » Do not eat food that may have come into contact with flood water.
- » For infants, use only prepared canned baby formula that requires no added water. Do not use powdered formulas.
- » Thawed food can usually be eaten or refrozen if it is still "refrigerator cold" or if it contains ice crystals. When in doubt, throw it out.
- » Post a list of contents on your freezer to minimize the number of times you open it.
- » Discard any refrigerated or frozen food that has been at room temperature for two hours or more, and any food with an unusual odor, color or texture.
- » Listen for public announcements about the safety of your local water supply. Flooded private wells will need to be tested and disinfected after flood waters recede.
- » Safe drinking water includes bottled, boiled or treated water.