



Power Outage Preparedness & Response

Power outages (caused by severe weather that damages power lines and equipment) can have serious consequences for our vulnerable seniors. Osgoode Care Centre has minimized this risk by investing in generators (and other equipment) and ensuring a stockpile of essential supplies.

This document provides employees with an overview of our power outage preparedness. It also summarizes responsibilities related to power outages.

In the event of a “brown out” (a partial power outage), the generator will not engage. Turn out unnecessary lighting and conserve energy as safely as possible until full power is restored. Breakers may be tripped – contact maintenance.

Power Outage Infrastructure

Equipment	Details	Responsibilities
Large Generator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The large generator automatically back-ups up the power to maintain our essential services including: emergency lighting, refrigeration, freezers, septic system, heating system, hot water, door security around OCC perimeter, phone system, select computer systems, and red plugs. Red plugs are located in all rooms on Rideau and in hallways on Village. • The generator does not power: air conditioning, steam tables, dishwasher, washer, dryer. • Our generator ensures continuity of essential services for a short critical time (typically several hours) before alternative living arrangements need to be made. It is located in the basement in the generator room marked “Zone 17”. It is powered by diesel and has the capacity to run 	<p>Building Maintenance maintains the working order of our large generator.</p> <p>Building Maintenance tests our large generator monthly.</p> <p>The manufacturer of our large generator (GAL Power Systems) does a full load test of our large generator annually.</p>



Small Generators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small generators and long extension cords are available for each of our units. These generators can provide power for several hours. • These small generators power: oxygen tanks, electric beds, air mattresses, portable fans. 	Charge nurse contacts building maintenance to set up small generators.
Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 7-day supply of meals, snacks, water and drinks is maintained at all times. 	Department head: Kitchen
Medical Supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 7-day supply of all medical supplies including medication is maintained at all times. 	Department head: Nursing
Linen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A rotating supply of linen is maintained several times a week, even throughout power outages. 	Department head: Housekeeping
Phones & Walkie Talkies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A cell phone is fully charged on each of Nursing Stations in case landlines are not operational. • Walkie talkies are located at each nursing station to communicate between units, as necessary. 	Charge nurse
Fire Alarm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A power outage (or power blip) triggers a signal to our home security provider to call our emergency contacts. 	CEO & President and Building Maintenance are on our provider's contact list.
Emergency Kits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency kits are fully stocked with an assortment of flashlights and extension cords for all lighting needs. 	CEO & President

Things to Know During a Power Outage

- No power should be used for recreation purposes or non-critical care. For example, hot meals are not served during a power outage and paper products are to be used for meals. Baths should not be given.
- The CEO & President (or delegate) assesses the situation, and tries to ascertain the anticipated length of the power outage. A general staff meeting will be held to keep staff informed and ensure the overall response to the power outage is coordinated.
- The CEO & President (or delegate) will do a head count as there is a short delay between the time of the power outage and the back-up generator starting (leading to the small chance that a resident may have left the premises without notice).



- The President & CEO (or delegate) notifies families via Cliniconnect and/or email to inform them of the power outage.
- The President & CEO contacts the Ministry of Long-Term Care if the power outage lasts (or is anticipated to last) more than one day so that off-site living arrangements can be made