

Supermarkets are on the front lines of emergency response both in preparation for an impending disaster such as an extreme weather event, and as one of the primary operations that must be up and running for a community to be able to recover after a disaster strikes.

Federal, state and local governmental entities are available to assist retailers, wholesalers and even trade associations, such as NGA, to coordinate response efforts to quickly get basic necessities such as food and water back into local communities.

## FEMA Needs Assessment

The Federal Emergency Management Agency advises taking three essential steps: assess your needs, create a plan and engage your support network. More information can be found [here](#).

FEMA advises you to stay informed by enabling [Wireless Emergency Alerts \(WEA\)](#) on your mobile device, signing up for alerts with your local emergency management office and also following your local [National Weather Service office on social media](#).

## CDC Preparedness Messaging

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Emergency Partners Information Connection (CDC EPIC) offers guidance how to stay safe before and after a weather event. Since power outages may limit your ability to print or use email, prepare and share these resources in advance of a crisis.

[English](#) | [Spanish](#)

PSAs about steps to take during a crisis:

[English](#) | [Spanish](#)

## Ready.gov

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security maintains [Ready.gov](#), which hosts an array of [business resources](#) that offer guidance for emergencies, including this [hurricane preparedness guide](#) among other resources for a [wide variety of emergency situations](#).

## Coping With A Disaster

During and after a disaster, it is natural to experience strong emotions. Coping with these feelings and getting help when you need it will help you, your family and your community recover.

[English](#) | [Spanish](#)

## Food Safety When You Lose Power

Safe temperatures are 40°F or lower in the refrigerator, 0°F or lower in the freezer.

Use dry or block ice to keep food as cold as possible during an extended power outage.

Discard any perishable food that has been above 40°F for two hours or more.

[Share this printable food safety infographic](#)

[FSIS YouTube video "Food Safety During Power Outages"](#)

## NGA Can Help

NGA's Government Relations team can contact representatives in Congress on your behalf to help you get the assistance you need to get back up and running or coordinate local recovery efforts. Contact [GR@NationalGrocers.org](mailto:GR@NationalGrocers.org) or (202) 938-2570.

For more information or support, contact [communications@nationalgrocers.org](mailto:communications@nationalgrocers.org)