



CoHomes Emergency Power Outage Plan

What to do if the power goes off?

NC DHHS / HB 813 Compliant

Applies to: Severe weather, ice storm, or utility disruption

Care Providers: Honest Home Care (Harrowfield) & Wellness Watchers (Bridgewood)

IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION NOTICE

- CoHomes house phones are **internet-based** and may not function during outages.
 - **Caregivers must keep personal cell phones charged at all times.**
 - Personal phones may be required to call **911**, leadership, or emergency transportation.
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IMMEDIATE RESPONSE (0–15 MINUTES)

Stabilize the Environment & Notify Leadership

- ☐ Confirm all residents are safe and accounted for
- ☐ **Immediately notify your agency and CoHomes leadership of power loss**
- ☐ Reassure residents using calm clear communication, and dress them in more layers of warm clothing
- ☐ Check indoor temperature and environmental safety
- ☐ Close exterior doors and unused rooms to conserve heat
- ☐ Minimize refrigerator usage. Keep doors closed to preserve food. Use bottled water.
- ☐ Begin documentation of outage time and conditions

Caregivers continue services per each resident's existing care plan and agency scope of practice.

SHORT-TERM RESPONSE (15–60 MINUTES)

Shelter in Place & Monitor

- ☐ Encourage residents to remain in warm, interior areas
 - ☐ Offer additional layers, blankets, and seating adjustments as needed
 - ☐ Encourage hydration and shelf-stable food/snacks
 - ☐ Monitor residents for discomfort, anxiety, or changes in condition
 - ☐ Use flashlights or battery lighting (no open flames)
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PREPARATION PHASE (1–3 HOURS)

Assume Extended Outage Is Possible

- ☐ Leadership evaluates conditions and determines next steps
- ☐ **Move “Go Bags” and Dan’s suitcase from bedrooms to the front door area without blocking the door**

Each Go Bag already contains:

- Clothing and weather-appropriate layers
 - Toiletries and personal care items
 - Continence supplies (Depends, wipes, chucks/bed pads, and gloves)
 - Personal comfort items (as applicable)
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Locations: 11308 Harrowfield Road, Charlotte, NC 28226 | 4042 Bridgewood Lane, Charlotte, NC 28226

Mailing Address: CoHomes, 15105D John J. Delaney Drive, Ste 173, Charlotte, NC 28277

Call/Text/Fax: 704-272-1777

Website: CoHomes.org





- ☐ Gather **medications, MARs, and emergency files** to remain accessible
- ☐ Continue care services per care plan and agency protocols
- ☐ Document resident status and environmental conditions

DECISION POINT (3–6 HOURS OR AS DIRECTED)

Leadership Determines Shelter-in-Place or Temporary Relocation

If Sheltering in Place Continues

- ☐ Continue temperature monitoring
- ☐ Encourage routine, rest, and hydration
- ☐ Maintain clear walkways and fall-prevention awareness
- ☐ Document resident tolerance and any concerns

If Temporary Relocation Is Activated

- ☐ Prepare residents slowly and calmly
- ☐ Ensure residents are dressed appropriately and have footwear
- ☐ Bring:
 - Medications and MARs
 - Emergency file and contacts
 - Resident Go Bag and Mobility aids (walker, cane, wheelchair)
- ☐ Caregiver accompanies resident during transport and transition

DURING TRANSPORT / RELOCATION

Safety, Dignity, Continuity of Care

- ☐ Use approved professional medical/assisted transport
- ☐ Assist residents per care plan and agency scope
- ☐ Maintain supervision appropriate to resident needs
- ☐ Notify CoHomes leadership once residents are safely settled

MEDICAL EMERGENCY (AT ANY TIME)

Call **911 immediately** for:

- Chest pain or breathing difficulty
- Loss of consciousness
- Serious fall or injury
- Sudden or significant change in condition

After emergency services are contacted, notify CoHomes leadership.

COMPLIANCE & CARE REMINDERS

- Residents do **not** require 24-hour supervision, but caregivers are present per agency agreement
- Care provided must align with **individual care plans and HB 813 limitations**
- Decisions are based on **safety, reasonableness, and emergency necessity**
- Documentation is essential

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