

Citizen information

"Blackout" - what to do" - Guide to self-care

What is a "blackout"?

A "blackout" is a longer-lasting, mostly supra-regional power, infrastructure and supply failure. Regional outages can be in many cases

repaired after hours, nationwide failures just after a few days.

This is to be distinguished from short-term technical faults (10 to 15 minutes) in the power supply.

How do I recognize a blackout?

- Is the power supply interrupted only in my house or also in my area (neighbourhood, street lights)?
- Do telephone, radio and internet still work?

Siren warning system

The city of Bottrop operates a nationwide siren warning system with different signal tones for various hazardous situations. Further explanations can be found here:

QR code

Text: <https://www.im.nrw/themen/Happenabwehr/warning-und-sirenen/sirenen>

How do I get up-to-date information?

- Radio (battery or solar powered)
- car radio
- if necessary (mobile) loudspeaker announcements
- if applicable, current leaflets / flyers
- Emergency information points

In the worst case, 24 emergency information points will be set up in Bottrop, which will be located at the following locations. You will receive there the necessary information from the city. Emergencies can also be reported there.

No light from reading lamps to street lighting

No communication Mobile phone, telephone, internet, television, emergency call

No money transactions ATM, cash registers, payment transactions, gas station

No purchase Food, beverages, supermarket, movement of goods

No drinking water cooking, shower, toilet

No cooling Fridge, freezer, private and merchandise movement

No heater private and public

No medication Emergency medicine, sick people

IMPORTANT: KEEP CALM AND ACT THOUGHTFULLY! What should you keep at home for at least ten days? Plan as for a nearly two-week "camping vacation" in your own four walls:- Water: The Rheinisch-Westfälische Wasserwerksgesellschaft aims to maintain the drinking water supply for as long as possible. An emergency supply of 2.5 l per person per day should nevertheless be prepared.- Food: keepable foods, such as e.g. jars / canned products (vegetables and fruits), cereals and legumes, pasta, rice, crispbread, sugar, long-life milk etc.- Cash (the sum of a double weekly purchase in small bills and coins - well secured!)- Medicine: medicine chest and personally essential medicines (e.g. insulin).- First aid kit.- Sanitary products.- Candles, matches.- Radio (battery or solar powered) or crank radio.- Spare batteries and fully charged batteries/power banks.- Camping cooker, fuel paste.- if necessary, care for pets (water, food).- if possible wood for heating / fireplace.- Sleeping bags, blankets and warm clothes.- car with a full tank. Further information can also be found on the Internet on the website of the city of Bottrop, from Emscher Lippe Energie (ELE) and from the Federal Office for Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance.