

EmPOWERment Town Hall

<https://www.ril-sacramento.org/>



**Created by
Resources for
Independent Living.
420 I Street,
Sacramento 95814
(916) 446-3074**



RESOURCES FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

*Serving persons with disabilities
in Sacramento and Yolo Counties
since 1976*

Agenda Today

- Welcome
- Who is RIL and what is a Public Safety Public Shut Off (PSPS) program about?
- What resources are available to people with disabilities during a PSPS?
- How to safely shelter-in-place evacuate and stay informed.
- Q & A's
- Closing Remarks & Thank You's



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ARE YOU PREPARED FOR THE NEXT PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF?

What to do during a PSPS or other natural disaster?



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- **Resources for Independent Living assists people with all types of disabilities to achieve their maximum level as independent contributing, responsible and equal participants in society.**
- **We are known for advocacy for disability rights.**
- **Resources for Independent Living -**

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We Provide...

- **Information and Referral**
- **Peer Counselling**
- **Individual and Systems Advocacy**
- **Independent Living Skills Training**
- **Housing**
- **Transition – Intentional Diversion**
- **Transition – Youth Services**
- **Assistive Technology**
- **Personal Care Assistance**
- **Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)**



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Prepare for PSPS

- **RIL is joining with the other California Foundations for Independent Living Centers within the PG&E service area to support people with disabilities and older adults to stay safe during PG&E power shut offs during Red Flag Warnings with backup batteries and other assistance.**



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Are You Prepared for the next Public Safety Power Shut Off?

Receiving RIL support in the event of a Public Safety Power Shut Off (PSPS).

Signing up for the **Medical Baseline Program** to lower the rate of your monthly energy bill, if you require the assistance of a medical or life support device.

Accessing **backup portable batteries** for those who require power for medical reasons. Individuals who use life sustaining electrical support will be the highest priority.

Providing tools to help you create a **disaster plan** including a **personalized disaster kit**.



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Medical Baseline Program

Resources for Independent Living can assist people with disabilities apply for the Medical Baseline Program. This is not an income-based program. If someone requires the use of a medical or life support device due to a disability or health condition, we can help you apply for the Medical Baseline Program. If the device qualifies for the program, your client will receive a **lower rate** on their monthly energy bill and **extra notifications** in advance of a Public Safety Power Shutoff.



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How do I obtain a portable battery?

People with disabilities and older adults who rely on power for **Durable Medical Equipment** such as respirators, C--PAP, automatic doors and power wheelchairs will be severely impacted by PSPS.

A backup portable battery is for those who require power for medical reasons. Individuals who use **life-sustaining electrical support** will be the highest priority.



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What do you need to maintain your safety, abilities, and independence if you should need to evacuate or shelter-in-place?

- 1. In your **Personalized Disaster Kit**, include essential items such as medication, water medical equipment, food and any technical devices.**
- 2. Consider your **mobility needs**, especially in the needs of evacuation. Know the accessible exits from where you live. For example in a apartment building.**
- 3. **Plan ahead**. Do you need extra support? For example hearing aids, wheelchair, phone to call or text, a walker etc.**



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Create a Personal Support Network

- A personal support network sometimes known as self-help team can help you prepare for a disaster.
- Organize a network that includes people from your home, school, workplace and volunteer sites or any other place you spend a lot of time at.
- Please inform your contacts of what help you would need in an emergency. Please do not assume your contacts know every need that you require for help. Tell them. Inform them.



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Sheltering-in Place Essentials

1. **Water Supply (3 days)**
2. **Water for sanitation**
3. **Non Perishable Foods**
4. **Shampoo/Conditioner**
5. **Soap**
6. **Deodorant**
7. **Clothing**
8. **Credit Card**
9. **Cell phone and charger**



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Sheltering-in Place Essentials Continued

1. **Birth Certificate**
2. **Photo ID**
3. **Health insurance card**
4. **Home/ Car Insurance**
5. **Medication for 7 days**
6. **Bank account numbers**
7. **Medical supplies**
8. **Catheters**
9. **Tubing**
10. **Syringes**
11. **Inhaler**
12. **Mask**
13. **Hearing aids**
14. **etc.**



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When it is time to evacuate, what do you need to consider?

Transportation Needs

- How are you going to leave your residence?
- How many exits are there?
- Is there a clear path that is easy for you to escape?
- Is it well lit at night?
- Can you find your way out with no power?
- How will you leave?
- Do you need an accessible vehicle?

What about service animals and pets?

- How will you care for animal during/after a disaster?
- Do you have someone who can take care of the animal? Who?



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People with disabilities have civil rights protections during disasters.

- You have a right to all disaster alerts & information in a format that is accessible to you.
- You have a right to be included in community evacuation transportation plans.
- You have a right to disability services and supports in an accessible community shelter, not transferred to a “special” shelter, hospital or nursing home.
- You have a right to barrier-free shelter and temporary housing.
- You have the right to keep your service animal with you throughout evacuation, sheltering and temporary housing.
- You have a right to advocate for your needs and file an official complaint. File civil rights complaints by emailing fema-civilrightsoffice@fema.dhs.gov | 202-212-3535 and crcl@dhs.gov | 202-401-1474 | 1-866-644-8360 (toll free) | TTY: 1-866-644-8361



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Help PG&E reach out to you during a PSPS

- When possible PG&E will reach out to you before a disaster or PSPS
- Visit **My Wildfire Alerts** or call **866-743-6589** to update your contact information and for language assistance
- For additional information please visit PG&E Safety Action Center <https://www.safetyactioncenter.pge.com/>



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Questions?



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