

NAPLES COMPUTERS HOW-TO • HURRICANE & SEASONAL

After the Storm: Powering Your Tech Back Up Safely

After a hurricane or tropical storm, how you power things back up matters. This guide covers waiting for steady power, checking for water, what to do (and not do) with water-damaged electronics, getting your data back, powering up your internet in the right order, and avoiding post-storm scams, for homes and businesses across Southwest Florida.

Safety first

- ☐ Never touch anything electrical that's wet
Or while you're standing in water
- ☐ Flooding inside? Leave it to the pros
If it's safe, turn off power at the main breaker, then call an electrician
- ☐ Generators outdoors only
At least 20 feet from windows, doors and garages, with CO detectors inside
- ☐ Sensitive electronics on a generator?
An inverter generator gives cleaner, steadier power

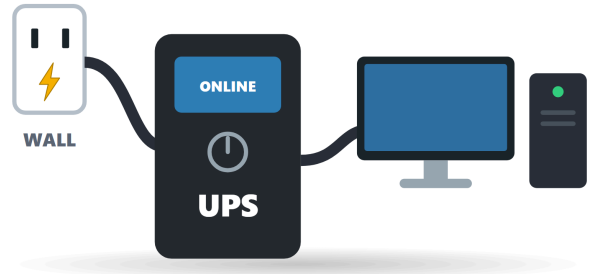
Step by step after the storm

1 Wait for steady power

Right after the lights come back, power can flicker, dip and surge while crews work on the lines.

WHAT TO DO

Leave computers and TVs unplugged until the power has stayed on steadily.



Power often returns with **surges & flickers**

2 Check for water before you plug in

Look for water marks, mud, moisture or corrosion on computers, power strips, cords and outlets.

WHAT TO DO

If it got wet, don't plug it in or turn it on.
Even "dry" equipment can short out later.



Got wet? **Don't power it on**

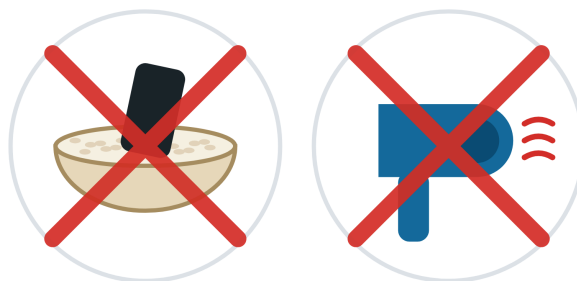
MYTH BUSTER

! Skip the rice and the hair dryer

Rice doesn't pull water out of electronics, and tiny grains and dust can get inside. Heat can warp parts and damage batteries.

WHAT TO DO

Gently tap out excess water, leave it somewhere dry with airflow, and bring it to a pro.



No rice

No heat

What Apple recommends **instead**: air and time

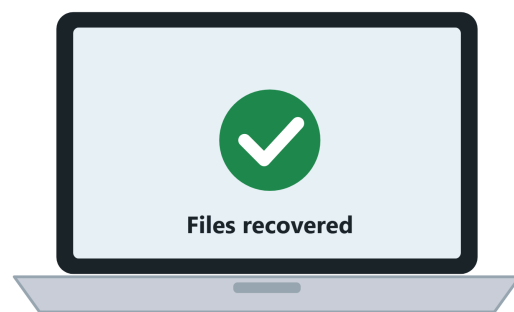
DATA RECOVERY

+ Your photos and files may still be saved

A drowned computer or hard drive often still holds your data. The less it's powered on, the better the odds.

WHAT TO DO

Bring it to Naples Computers. The assessment is free: no recovery, no charge.



Free assessment: **no recovery, no charge**

SCAM ALERT

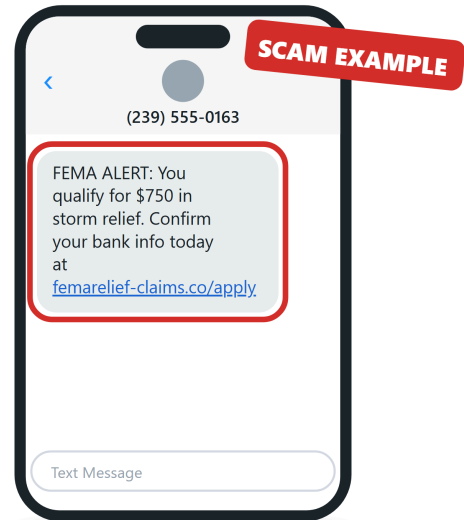


Watch out for post-storm scams

Scammers pose as FEMA, insurance adjusters and contractors, by text, email, phone and at your door.

WHAT TO DO

FEMA never charges fees or asks for bank info by text. Apply only at DisasterAssistance.gov or 1-800-621-3362.



Fake "FEMA" texts ask for **bank info**

5

Photograph damage before you clean up

Take photos and video of damaged equipment, including model and serial number labels, before you throw anything away.

WHAT TO DO

Keep receipts, and send copies to your insurance company. We can provide repair or replacement assessments.



Damage + **model & serial numbers**

Water-damaged electronics: **do's & don'ts**



Unplug it and keep it off

Remove the battery if it comes out easily



Dry the outside, then let it air out

Phones: a dry spot with some airflow

- ☐ Bring it in quickly
Corrosion keeps working while you wait
- ☐ Don't turn it on "to see if it works"
That's when most of the damage happens
- ☐ Don't use rice, a hair dryer or heat
Apple warns against rice, heat and compressed air
- ☐ Don't reuse flooded power strips
Surge protectors that were under water must be replaced

Step 3: power up in the right order

- ☐ Modem first
Wait for the Online light, usually a couple of minutes
- ☐ Then the router
Wait until its lights settle and Wi-Fi appears
- ☐ Then computers
And printers, TVs and smart devices

Step 4: once you're back online

- ☐ Check that backups resumed
OneDrive, iCloud, Carbonite or your external drive
- ☐ Install waiting updates
Then restart your computer
- ☐ Let your UPS recharge
Replace it if it beeps or fails its self-test
- ☐ Check surge protectors
"Protected" light off? Replace it

Recap: after the storm

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|--|---|
| ☐ Wait for steady power | ☐ Modem, then router, then computers |
| ☐ Check for water before you plug in | ☐ Check backups, updates & your UPS |
| ☐ Wet? Don't turn it on. No rice, no heat | ☐ FEMA never charges fees |

If a computer, phone or hard drive got wet, the most important thing is to not turn it on. Bring it in: our data recovery assessment is free, with no recovery, no charge. Same-day remote, in-shop and on-site service is often available.



Storm damage to your computers, drives or network?

Call 239-513-1960

naplescomputers.com · **We Make I.T. Happen!**