

Blackout

Information about what to do in the event of a power failure

Dear Citizens,

The current global political situation clearly shows us that we in Germany must also prepare for emergency situations. While experts do not at present anticipate an acute shortage of gas or electricity, bottlenecks in the winter months especially cannot be ruled out. The City of Aschaffenburg has been preparing for possible emergency situations for a considerable time already. To that end the city authorities have set up a crisis management team in which the fire service, the municipal utility companies and other crisis response offices and institutions work together closely. The preliminary plans of this crisis management team are focused on a possible blackout, by which we mean a power failure across the region lasting several hours or even days. The top priority in the event of such a power failure will be to maintain “critical infrastructure” such as the fire service, police, ambulance services, hospitals, water utilities and local public transport. Since we assume that the telephone network will go down after a very short time, the plans provide for “emergency reception points” in the Aschaffenburg urban area in order to provide you, our citizens, with somewhere to go in the event of medical or other emergencies (e.g. fire). This flyer contains information about the proposed emergency reception points. In this brochure we would also like to pass on a few tips for what you yourself can do in the event of a power failure. Please make use of these. You will see that this is not at all difficult, and that you can prepare well even by taking just a few measures.

Jürgen Herzing

Mayor

Mark Weigandt

Municipal Fire Council

What is a blackout?

A blackout is taken to mean an unplanned, widespread power failure that affects a great many people. It takes a lot of time and effort to rectify a blackout. Given the current precautionary measures, we anticipate that a large-scale power failure will last no more than 72 hours at most.

How likely is a blackout in Germany?

According to experts, such an event is possible, but not very likely. There have been no blackouts in Germany in the last few decades. Regional, shorter-lasting power failures are more likely.

How can I prepare myself for a blackout?

- Lay in sufficient stocks of drinking water, food, medicines, hygiene articles and – if necessary – baby food.
- Get yourself a battery-operated or wind-up radio. This will enable you to keep up with the latest information from the city's crisis team and the power suppliers.
- A camping stove will enable you to prepare smaller meals.
- Warm clothing can keep you comfortable if the heating goes off.
- Take precautions to ensure that relatives in need of care can look after and cater for themselves for a short while if necessary.
- In serious situations, candle, pocket or camping lamps can help you find your way round safely once darkness falls.

These recommendations are taken from the brochure (in German) entitled “Stromausfall – Vorsorge und Selbsthilfe” published by the German Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance (Bundesamt für Bevölkerungsschutz und Katastrophenhilfe, BBK).

“Stromausfall – Vorsorge und Selbsthilfe”

[Power failure – Precautions and advice] published by the BBK:



“Meine persönliche Checkliste” [My personal checklist] published by the BKK:



Emergency reception points

In the event of a lengthy power failure (i.e. lasting more than 60 minutes), it is possible that the telephone network for landlines and mobile phones will suffer a complete or partial failure. To ensure that the population can continue to make emergency calls even in such a situation, emergency reception points will be set up across the urban area as permanently staffed contact points.

If the emergency numbers 110 (police) and 112 (fire service and ambulance) can no longer be reached by telephone, the emergency reception points will take in requests for help and pass these on to the police, ambulance and fire service control centres by radio. The plan is for each reception point in the city to cover a radius of around 750 metres. In addition, the emergency reception points can also be used to pass on information to the population on the situation as it develops, such as the nature and duration of the power failure.

The emergency reception points will also be called “lighthouses”. This term illustrates the fact that these points will be one of the few illuminated places in the event of a power failure.

Overview of emergency reception points (lighthouses)

	District	Building	Address
1	City centre	Rathaus [town hall]	Dalbergstraße 15
2	Damm	Feuerwehrgerätehaus Damm [fire station]	Dyroffstraße 10
3	Gailbach	Feuerwehrgerätehaus Gailbach [fire station]	Hofgartenweg 1
4	Leider	Feuerwehrgerätehaus Leider [fire station]	Kerschensteinerstraße 11
5	Nilkheim	Polizeiinspektion Aschaffenburg [police headquarters]	Lorbeerweg 1
6	Obernau	Feuerwehrgerätehaus Obernau [fire station]	Hauptstraße 21
7	Österreicher Colony	Malteser Hilfsdienst [Order of Malta emergency corps]	Schönbornstraße 38
8	Schweinheim	Technisches Hilfswerk [Federal Agency for Technical Relief]	Wendelbergstraße 30
9	Schweinheim	AWO Sozialzentrum “Am Rosensee” [social centre]	Siegfried-Rischar-Str. 2 - 4

10	Schweinheim	Turnhalle TV Schweinheim 1885 e. V. [gymnasium]	Sportweg 8
11	City centre	Servicecenter der AVG [AVG service centre]	Werkstraße 2
12	City centre	Kundenzentrum Regionaler Busbahnhof [bus station]	Ludwigstraße 8
13	City centre	Grünewald Grundschule [primary school]	Ludwigsallee 2
14	Strietwald	Justizvollzugsanstalt [prison]	Hasenhägweg 135
15	Strietwald	Fußballplatz SG Strietwald [football stadium]	Adlerstraße 2

Please note that other emergency points are being established gradually.

The current locations can be found at: www.aschaffenburg.de/stromausfall

Important information, telephone numbers and warnings

Emergency call: 112

Police: 110

On-call medical service: 116 117

Aschaffenburg fire service: www.feuerwehr-aschaffenburg.de

Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance: www.bbk.bund.de

City of Aschaffenburg

www.aschaffenburg.de/stromausfall

www.aschaffenburg.de/energie

The **NINA warning app** is used to warn and inform the population:



Cell Broadcast sends automatic warnings to your mobile:



WarnWetter is used primarily to send warnings of dangerous weather:



Nora is used to send an emergency call for those with speech or hearing difficulties:

