

# Communication During Emergencies

Everyday communication devices may not function properly during an emergency. The following are tips to help you stay connected.

## Avoid phone calls.

Limit calls to prevent network congestion.

### If calling is necessary:

- Keep your conversation brief and convey only vital information.
- If you are unable to complete a call, wait ten seconds before redialing.



## Additional Tips:

- In an emergency, call 911 for help.
- If your area offers 311 service or another information system, call that number for non-emergencies.
- Conserve your battery by going into power saving mode, reducing the screen's brightness, and closing apps when not in use.
- Keep an extra charger for your mobile device in your emergency kit.

911

311



## Use text messaging as the primary form of communication during an emergency:

Text messaging on cell phones can sometimes work even when the network is overwhelmed. Similarly, email and direct messaging on social media use less bandwidth than voice communication. They may work even when phone services have been disrupted.



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