Electrical — Breakers, GFCI, Outlets & Lights

General guidance — your appliance make/model may differ. When in doubt, stop and contact PCPM.

Common symptoms

- Part of the home has no power
- Bathroom, kitchen, garage or outdoor outlets dead
- Breaker keeps tripping

Try this first

1. Check whether neighbors also have no power — if so it is an outage: check the City Utilities outage map.
2. Find GFCI outlets (the ones with TEST/RESET buttons) in bathrooms, kitchen, garage, laundry and outside. One GFCI can control several outlets — press RESET firmly on each.
3. At the breaker panel, look for a breaker in the middle or OFF position. Push it fully to OFF, then back to ON. Reset only once.
4. If a breaker trips again, unplug items on that circuit (space heaters, hair dryers, microwaves often overload) and try again.
5. Light not working: try a known-good bulb of the correct wattage and check the wall switch (some outlets are switch-controlled).

Safety first

- Never remove the breaker panel cover, outlet covers or switch plates.
- Do not reset a breaker that trips immediately more than once.
- Sparks, scorch marks, buzzing, hot outlets or a burning smell: turn the breaker off if safe, and call PCPM right away. If there is smoke or fire, leave and call 911.
- Keep water away from outlets; do not use extension cords as permanent wiring.

When to call PCPM

Call PCPM if power does not return after resetting GFCIs/breakers, a breaker trips repeatedly, or you notice any heat, smell or sparking (emergency: 417-844-6363).

Emergencies (no heat in freezing weather, active leak, no water, sparking/burning smell, sewage backup, security issue): call PCPM immediately at 417-844-6363. Non-emergencies: submit a request on the Tenant Portal or email pcpmrentals@gmail.com with photos.

Helpful links

- How to reset a tripped GFCI (YouTube)
- Reset GFCI outlets and circuit breakers (YouTube)

- City Utilities outage map