

Communications outage

ACTION CHECKLIST

Conserve phone battery, try short texts for nonurgent check-ins and use a battery radio for official information. For immediate danger, try calling local emergency services; text-to-911 availability varies. Do not travel into danger just to find signal.

[] Check alternatives

Try a safe available landline, another carrier or Wi-Fi calling if configured and functioning.

[] Keep messages short

Send your location, status and next check-in time to your out-of-area contact.

[] Protect battery

Lower brightness, enable low-power mode and limit unnecessary use.

[] Use the meeting plan

If networks fail completely, follow the agreed safe meeting and contact arrangements.

WATCH FOR

A message sent is not necessarily delivered. Do not assume emergency texting is supported everywhere.

IF HELP IS UNAVAILABLE

Write a short message with your status, location and next check-in time; try it periodically rather than draining the battery with constant retries. Use your agreed meeting plan only when the route is safe. Do not split up to hunt for signal.

Updated 2026-10-02 | Civilian educational guidance. Seek qualified help when reachable and safe; do not delay immediate protective action.

Full guide: <https://ospreyzero.com/emergencies/communications-outage/>

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