

Storm Safety Checklist

Before storms hit, be ready.

We're ready and we want you to be ready, too. Start by making sure you are getting all the information you need with **Outage Alerts**. Sign up for **Outage Alerts** for real time updates when your power goes out. Receive alerts by text, email, phone or all three. Also download our App for outage and account information.



Home Checklist

- Make sure your electronic devices are fully charged, flashlights and battery-powered radios have fresh batteries and are ready to use and easy to find.
- Have candles, lamps and matches handy. Instruct family members in their proper use to reduce the risk of accidental fires.
- Be sure to have your generator checked and fully fueled.
- Make sure your vehicles are fueled and running properly in case of an emergency.
- Every home should have fire safety equipment: fire extinguishers, fire alarms and CO² detectors.
- Store drinking water in bottles or plastic containers. If you have an electric water pump, fill pails, kettles, bathtubs and sinks with water for other uses.
- Stock up on canned and dried foods that require no refrigeration and little or no cooking. Be sure you have a manual can opener on hand.
- Make plans for emergency heating and cooking.
- Put extra blankets and your warmest clothes where you can find them easily. Layering clothing is a great way to stay warm.
- Don't forget the pipes! If it's cold out and heat is off for an extended period, wrap water pipes with insulation or newspaper. In very cold weather let the faucet drip or drain the pipes.

Extended Outages

If extended outages are predicted, consider the following ways to make yourself more comfortable.

- Keep the refrigerator and freezer doors closed, open them only when necessary.
- Dress in warm layers and stay dry.
- Let nature do the trick. If it's cold, you can store perishable foods in a shed or garage and out of reach of animals. If it's below freezing, keep frozen foods outside in closed wooden or metal containers and be sure to place them out of direct sunlight.
- Use water sparingly. Water that you use for cooking and washing may be used again for flushing the toilet.
- Be sure to check with your town or the Maine Emergency Management Agency about warming centers if you get too cold.

To find this information online, visit cmpco.com.

Electric Safety Checklist

Look up...be aware

Be safe around overhead power lines. When working around your house, remember to look up and see where power lines might be to avoid an accident.

Power Lines

- It is extremely dangerous to touch a power line, whether it is overhead or has fallen on the ground. If you see a downed power line call **911** and **CMP (800.696.1000)** immediately. Always assume a downed line is a live line.
- Beware of a downed power line touching a vehicle. Stay clear of the vehicle and the power line. If a power line touches your vehicle while you are inside, remain calm. If you can do so safely, stay inside the vehicle until emergency assistance arrives or warn others to stay away from the vehicle and have them call CMP.
- Be careful around overhead power lines.
 - When planning a project, you - and your contractors - should carefully check the work area for any potential hazards, including overhead power lines.
 - Remember things such as aluminum siding, gutters and ladders conduct electricity. Never let these items touch a power line.
 - Leave the cutting and trimming of trees near power lines to professionals. A tree or limb that comes in contact with a power line could be deadly.

Power Outlets

- Have a licensed electrician install weatherproof covers and GFCIs (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters) on outdoor electrical outlets to protect yourself against electrical shock.
- GFCIs should be installed in areas such as bathrooms, kitchens and pool areas where water has the potential of coming in contact with electricity. Always check to ensure that your outlet and switch covers are in good condition. If you are able to see exposed wiring, replace the switch or the cover.
- Always remember to use safety caps on unused outlets if applicable. Small children and pets can suffer electrical shock from these sources and should never be left unattended around electrical outlets, switches, or extension cords. Safety plugs can be purchased at most hardware stores to keep your children and pets safe from electrical exposure.

Electric Equipment

- Water and electricity NEVER mix. Keep power tools and extension cords away from water, including rain, wet ground, swimming pools, sprinklers and garden hoses.
- Inspect extension and power cords for wear and tear before using. Replace any cord you find that is frayed or cracked.
- NEVER overload an extension or power cord! If the cord is warm or hot to the touch, there is a good chance that it is overloaded and could cause an electrical fire if not corrected.

For additional information on electrical safety, please visit esfi.org.

To find this information online, visit cmpco.com/safety.