

## “WHAT WOULD YOU DO DURING A POWER OUTAGE?”

Brigham City Public Power is dedicated to providing and maintaining reliable electric service to the residents of Brigham City. Regardless how hard we work it's impossible to eliminate all power outages. Although we cannot completely eliminate power outages we can provide you some suggestions and helpful hints on what you can do if your electricity turns off.

If you lose power during a storm, determine whether the problem exist within your home before you call us. If not, call right away so we can determine the extent of the power failure. Call 435-734-6604 from 8am-5pm Monday – Friday or for after hours and emergencies call 435-723-6868.

There are some things you can do before a power outage. The key to coping with a power outage, especially a prolonged outage, is preparation. Here are some suggestions:

- Acquire emergency supplies and know how to use them
- Keep a flashlight handy at all times
- Have a plan for dealing with extended blackouts
- Trim Your Trees: Trees are the number one cause of power outages. Due to high winds or heavy snow storms trees can bring down power lines. If you see downed power lines immediately report it. Never touch a downed wire regardless of how harmless it looks! Stay away and keep others away too!
- Use a Surge Protector: Computers, fax machines, copiers, VCRs, TVs, stereos, and other electronic gadgets have become a part of everyday life. However electronic equipment is sensitive to power surges.
- Register In-Home Medical Equipment: Let Brigham City Public Power know if you are using any life sustaining medical equipment. Most medication that requires refrigeration can be kept in a closed refrigerator for several hours without a problem. If unsure check with your physician or pharmacist.
- Get a Corded Phone: Even if you have a cell phone or a cordless telephone have corded phone on hand. Cell phone service can be unreliable during a major power outage due to overuse and cordless phones don't work without electricity for their base unit.
- Keep Your Car Full or at Least Half-Full with Fuel: During a power outage you may have trouble pumping fuel because gas pumps require electricity.

If you do experience a power outage there are some things you should do. Best rule is to keep calm, comfortable, and prepare for when the lights go back on.

- Don't Panic: A power outage at night or in a storm can be scary. Stay calm, determine the extent of the outage, and call us!
- Turn off Electrical Equipment: If your home is not equipped with a surge protector you should turn off and unplug electrical appliances including refrigerators and freezers. Sudden surges and spikes that occur when the power is restored can damage computers and equipment motors.

- Turn Off the Lights: All but one so you'll know when power is restored.
- Keep Refrigerator and Freezer Closed: Open the doors as little as possible to keep foods cold longer.
- Limit Phone Usage: Depending on how widespread the power outage is phone lines (including cell phone systems) may be overloaded.
- Stay Home: If possible stay home and limit driving. Traffic lights can be affected by power outages increasing traffic congestion and creating hazardous driving conditions.
- Stay Warm: Wear appropriate clothing for the weather conditions. Avoid accidental hypothermia. Staying a long time in a cold place can harm anyone; it is particularly risky for the elderly. Even mildly cool temperatures can trigger accidental hypothermia. A drop in deep body temperature can be deadly if not detected promptly and treated properly.

Brigham City Public Power prides itself on providing the best reliable electric service to its customers. Our Director of Public Power credits his department's personnel who operate the power plant and construct and maintain the power lines with the excellent service reliability which the Brigham City residents enjoy.