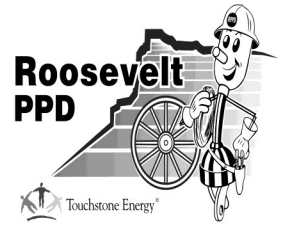


# Roosevelt Public Power District

www.rooseveltppd.com



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## **GALLOPING POWER LINES**

*Galloping power lines may sound ridiculous, but they really do occur and can be very dangerous. These lines can bounce and buck enough to hit another line, damage themselves enough to cause a power outage, or even fall to the ground.*

*The most common cause of galloping lines is ice that builds up on one side of a power line as a result of strong winds. This buildup creates an airfoil, which changes the flow of air around the normally round line. This change in air flow can cause the power line to start to bounce.*

*Once galloping starts, there is not much a power company can do to alleviate it until winds die down. This is why many power lines have objects, like twisted wire or round or angular pieces of metal attached to the line. These are devices placed on power lines to help reduce the galloping of lines and prevent potential danger. If you encounter galloping lines, stay away, warn others to stay away, and contact your utility. In addition to the possibility of power outages, there is a danger of the lines or other electrical equipment breaking loose and falling and of ice being dislodged from the lines and falling to the ground.*

*Storms at any time of the year can pack damaging winds, which can knock down power lines and blow trees and limbs onto power lines, which can cause power outages. The Safe Electricity program encourages you to keep the following safety tips in mind after a wind storm:*

- ◆ *When you see power lines on the ground, stay away, warn others to stay away, and contact the electric utility or 911. Lines do not have to be arcing or sparking to be live.*
- ◆ *Any utility wire, including telephone or cable lines which are sagging or down, could be in contact with an energized power line also making them dangerous. Stay away from all lines.*
- ◆ *Be alert to the possibility that tree limbs or debris may hide an electrical hazard. Downed power lines can energize objects around it, such as chain link fences and metal culverts.*
- ◆ *Keep in mind that a line that is “dead” could still become energized during power restoration efforts or improper use of generators.*
- ◆ *Never drive over a downed line. It could cause poles or other equipment to come crashing down.*
- ◆ *If you are in a car that has come in contact with a downed power line, stay in your vehicle. Wait until the utility crew has arrived and de-energized the line. Warn others not to approach the car. Only exit the car in the case of fire; and, in doing so, be sure to jump out and away from the car with both feet together. Then hop away while continuing to keep both*

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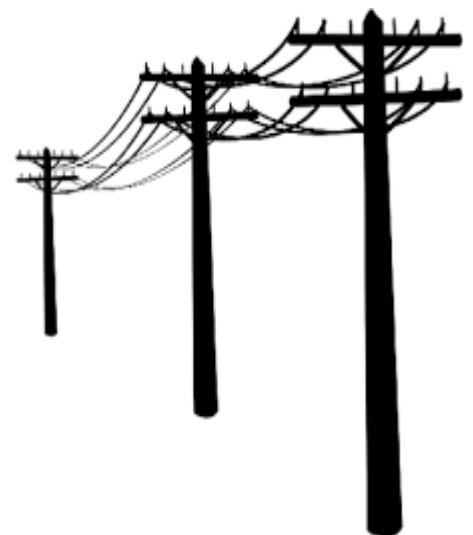
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## TIPS FOR WEATHERING WINTER STORMS

Winter storms can cause hazardous road conditions, downed power lines, and extended power outages. Safe Electricity shares tips on preparing for and safely weathering winter storms.

If the power goes out, notify your utility of the outage. Have an emergency kit prepared to help you and your family weather the storm and the outage safely and comfortably. Some of the items this kit should include are bottled water, non-perishable food, flashlights, a weather radio, and extra batteries.

If you are using an alternative heating source during an outage, know how to use it safely and have all supplies for it gathered. To help you and your family stay warm during an outage, dress warmly, cover windows at night, close off unneeded rooms, and place draft blocks at the bottom of doors.

Only venture outside if absolutely necessary. Downed power lines could be submerged in snow and ice, making them difficult to see. If you must go outside, use caution and treat all downed and hanging lines as if they are energized. Stay away, warn others to stay away, and immediately contact your utility.

If travel is necessary, be especially cautious driving, and keep an emergency kit in your vehicle. Its supplies should include a windshield scraper, first aid kit, a cell phone charging adaptor, booster cables, a blanket, and a flashlight with extra batteries.

Never drive over a downed line because that could pull down the pole and other equipment, causing additional hazards. If you see a downed line, do not get out of your car. The safest place is inside the vehicle. Contact the utility immediately.

Before a storm ever begins, tune into your local weather service for the weather forecast. It is important to know the differences among various watches and warnings.

**Winter Storm Watches** signify that stormy conditions, including heavy snow, freezing rain, or sleet, are likely within the next few days. You should be alert, as this means adverse conditions could begin within the next 12 to 48 hours.

**Winter Storm Warnings** call for stormy conditions to begin within the next 24 hours. Those in the range of the warning should be mindful of the impending conditions and consider canceling plans to travel outside of the home.

**Blizzard Warnings** advise those in the affected areas to seek refuge immediately due to high levels of snow, strong winds, and resulting

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*Help us to help you! If you have changed your phone number or contact information, please let the office know so that we may update your account. Write it on your bill stub, send us an e-mail, or give us a call. We like to inform our customers if we have to have a planned outage in order for our linemen to work safely; however, if we have old or incorrect information it leaves us unable to contact you.*