

Lines



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Be Prepared for Winter Storms

Pepco works hard to prevent power outages. However, ice storms and heavy snow can sometimes result in service disruptions. Planning ahead helps minimize the impact of outages. Here are some things you can do to be prepared:

- Have flashlights, fresh batteries, a battery-powered radio and/or television set and a battery-powered clock on hand.
- Keep important phone numbers handy, including Pepco's outage reporting number 1-877-Pepco-62 (1-877-737-2662). Use a land-line phone with a cord, or a cell phone, since cordless phones require electricity.
- For safety reasons, Pepco does not recommend using candles or portable space heaters. However, if you do use them, never leave them unattended and make sure children and pets do not knock them over.
- Keep at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food and bottled water, along with a hand-operated can opener available.
- Store extra blankets and sleeping bags in case you lose heat.



- Close drapes at night to minimize heat loss. Keep them open during the day to allow in the sun's warmth.
- Be sure to have a first-aid kit and prescription drugs on hand.
- If you or someone in your home uses life-support equipment that requires electricity to operate, identify a location with emergency power capabilities and make plans to go there during a prolonged outage.

- If you have a generator, never use it inside, even in a garage. Also, carefully follow the manufacturer's installation and operating instructions.
- If you see a downed power line, do not go near it, and keep others away from it. Immediately call Pepco's downed power line number at 202-872-3432.

For more information on preparing for power outages, visit www.pepco.com and click on the "Emergency Preparedness" link.

We Have a Speaker for Your Next Event



Pepco employees are available to address your community group on a variety of energy-related topics. We are eager to answer your questions, and presentations can be customized to meet the unique interests of your organization.

Speakers are available for either day or evening meetings. To arrange for a Pepco speaker, call 202-872-2089.

We're connected to you by more than power lines.®

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

The winter holiday season is here and that means many of us will be decorating and entertaining in our homes. To enjoy the season even more, please keep the following electrical and fire-safety tips in mind:

- When putting up outside decorations make absolutely sure you and any objects you may be using – such as a ladder – do not come in contact with power lines. Carry ladders and other equipment parallel to the ground.
- Use holiday decorations that are made of flame resistant, flame retardant, non-combustible material.
- If using a live or cut tree, check the water level daily.
- Before using decorations that require electricity, inspect them and replace any that are frayed or damaged.
- Do not overload extension cords.
- Keep candles away from trees, decorations or other items that can catch fire.
- Turn off all string lights and other decorations that use electricity before going to bed or leaving home. Extinguish all candles and keep matches out of sight and reach of children.
- Make sure smoke alarms are in working order.

For more electrical safety tips, visit Pepco's Web site at www.pepco.com and click on the "Safety & Conservation" link.

A Helping Hand for Those in Need

For some Washington-area families choosing between eating or heating is a real concern in the winter. Fortunately, we can help those in need.

The Washington Area Fuel Fund (WAFF), operated by the Salvation Army, provides assistance to families and individuals who need help in paying their heating bills.

Would you like to help? Send your tax-deductible contribution to: WAFF, P.O. Box 1999, Washington, D.C. 20013. For more information about the WAFF program, call 1-888-318-WAFF.

Holiday Lighting for Less

You don't have to sacrifice holiday lighting in order to manage your energy bill. LED (light-emitting diode) holiday lights allow you to decorate inside and out without driving up energy usage.

LED lights are 90 percent more efficient than traditional holiday lights, according to the Alliance to Save Energy (ASE). While LED holiday lighting is slightly more expensive to buy, ASE estimates that a household using a string of 1,000 LED lights daily for six hours spends only about 50 cents per month.

The same number of traditional mini-lights, same usage, would cost on average about \$5 per month.

LED bulbs are sturdier than traditional bulbs, lasting up to 100,000 hours. LED lights also produce almost no heat, which greatly reduces safety concerns.

LED lighting is available as a replacement for traditional window electric candles used in decorating. And, instead of using votive candles and tea lights, LED offers flickering, battery-operated alternatives that can offer the same atmosphere without the hazard of a live flame. For more information, visit www.ase.org.



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Customer Service: (202) 833-7500
TTY Telephone Number for Hearing Impaired: (202) 872-2369
To Report Power Outages: 1-877-PEPCO 62 (1-877-737-2662)