



SAFE COMMUNITY COALITION

## Electric Safety

### What to do when the lights go out

- Keep a flashlight with fresh batteries in a handy location.
- Keep a battery-operated radio close by.
- Keep a standard telephone on hand; most cordless phones do not work during a power outage.
- Carry a house key at all times; garage door openers will not work during a power outage.
- Invest in a quality surge suppressor to protect televisions, computers, stereos and other electrical equipment.
- Consider the impact of a power interruption on your security system. Make sure you have a functioning battery backup.
- Unplug all major electrical equipment/appliances. Once power is restored, turn on the appliances one by one.
- Have a family emergency plan in place if power is interrupted or other disaster occurs.

### Safety tips

- Avoid entering a basement that has standing water unless the power has been shut off.
- Don't go near or drive over downed power lines.
- Don't attempt to remove tree limbs stuck in or touching power lines.

### Prevention tips

- Stay clear of substations and wires.
- Cover electrical outlets you're not using with plug adapters.
- Be sure to install Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI) in all areas where water is used, e.g., bathroom, kitchen.

*Written by: Madison Gas and Electric, Alliant Energy*

### To report electrical outages, call:

Alliant Energy Customers  
1-800-862-6261 (24 hours)

Madison Gas and Electric  
Customers  
608-252-7111 or  
1-800-245-1123 (24 hours)

For more information, contact the Safe Community Coalition at (608) 256-6713, or email [scc@safecommunitycoalition.org](mailto:scc@safecommunitycoalition.org).