



## Riding Out the Storm: Are You Prepared?

A slow-moving tropical storm topples trees, floods communities and leaves thousands without power for several days. A tornado tears through a neighborhood and leaves a block of homes in ruins. Or a derecho cuts a path of destruction across the state, leaving emergency workers – and residents – struggling to recover.

When life is good, no one wants to think about these scary situations. But the steps you take now will determine how well you and your family are able to cope with a potential natural disaster. September is National Preparedness Month. It's a time to make lists and take action to prepare your family and your home for a natural disaster.

REC stocks materials and prepares employees year-round, so crews are always ready to make repairs and restore service as needed. REC also coordinates with local, state and national emergency groups, so all can work together to serve our communities during times of need. "Safety is always REC's top priority," said John Crawford, manager of safety, risk and operational support services at REC. "A big part of that is making sure crews – and all employees – are ready well before a potential disaster."

REC urges member-owners to prepare now, too. Here's what you need for your kit:



**Flashlights**



**Batteries**



**Nonperishable food**



**Hand-operated  
can opener**



**Cash**



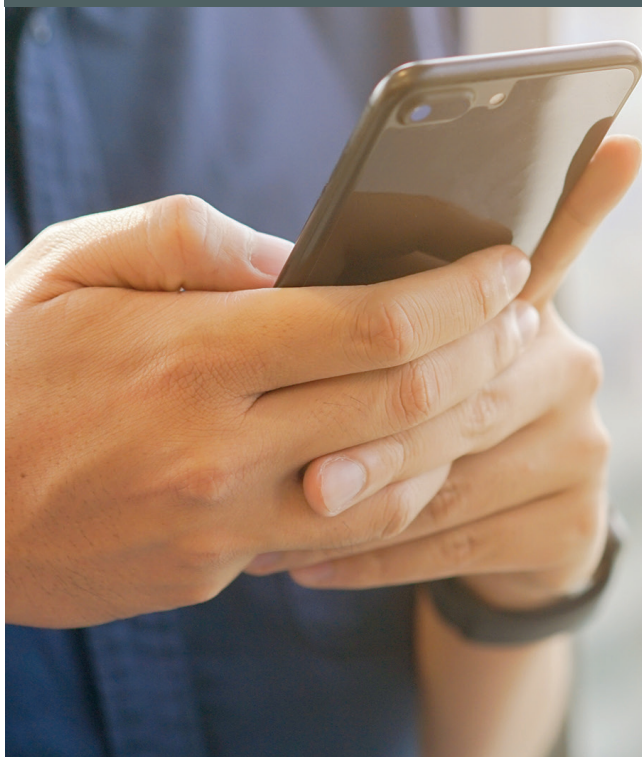
# Downed Power Lines: Stay Clear to Stay Safe

Downed power lines can look harmless, but don't be fooled. They likely carry an electric current strong enough to cause serious injury or possibly death. Important tips to keep in mind:

- If you see a downed power line, move away from the line and anything touching it.
- If you see someone who is in contact with the downed line, do not touch the person. You could become the next victim.
- Call 911.
- Do not attempt to move a downed power line or anything in contact with the line by using another object such as a broom or stick. Even normally non-conductive materials like wood or cloth, if slightly wet, can conduct electricity and electrocute you.



Find more downed power line safety information: [myrec.coop/safety](https://myrec.coop/safety)



## Sign Up for **Outage Text Alerts** in MyREC SmartHub

REC offers text messaging to help keep member-owners better informed during power outages. When enrolled for Outage Text Alerts, you will generally receive notifications when:

- REC is aware of an outage in your area.
- A crew has been dispatched to your area.
- An estimated restoration time is known.
- Power is restored and the cause of the outage, if known.

Occasionally, fewer messages may be sent during an outage.

### To sign up

Log in to your **MyREC SmartHub** and click the **Notifications** tab at the top.\*

\*Please ensure you have a mobile phone number in your account. To confirm or add that information, click **My Profile** and then **Update My Billing Address & Contact Information**.