



Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority

The severe winds experienced during monsoon storms have the potential to cause power outages throughout the Community this time of year. Strong winds can topple utility poles and snap tree limbs causing them to fall on power lines and disrupt electrical service.

The Gila River Indian Community Utility Authority (GRICUA) has the following tips for dealing with a power outage:

Outage Safety

- **Be extra cautious when you go outside to inspect for damage after a storm. Downed or hanging electrical wires can be hidden by trees or debris, and could be live. Never attempt to touch or move downed lines, and keep children and pets away from them. Do not touch anything power lines are touching, such as tree branches or fences. Always assume a downed line is a live line. Call GRICUA at 520-796-0600 to report downed power lines or other outage-related problem.**

Emergency Preparation



- **Flashlight** - Keep a flashlight and extra batteries handy. Do not use candles in a power outage or other emergency.
- **Radio** - A battery operated radio is an important source of critical weather and emergency information during a storm.

Steps To Take During an Outage

- **Appliances Electronics** - Turn off any appliances or electronics you were using when the power went out.
- **Leave light on** - Leave one light turned on so you'll know when your power returns.

- **Staying warm** - If you're cold, put on layers of warm clothing or go to an emergency shelter. **Never** burn anything such as charcoal briquettes for heating or cooking indoors as it can produce carbon monoxide which is odorless and colorless. Carbon monoxide buildup can cause death.
- **Refrigerators and freezers** - Leave the doors of your refrigerator and freezer closed to keep your food as fresh as possible.
 - **Frozen food** - If your freezer is full, food will stay frozen for about two days. If it is less than half full, food will stay frozen for about one day.
 - **Refrigerated food** - To avoid losing the cold air in your refrigerator, don't open doors unnecessarily. Food can stay cold in a full refrigerator up to 24 hours.
- **Cooking during an outage**

Never use charcoal briquettes to cook or heat food indoors. Charcoal briquettes produce carbon monoxide. Odorless and colorless, a buildup of carbon monoxide can be deadly.

- **Medical**

If you have a medical condition that is impacted by a power outage call 911.

If you have medication that requires refrigeration, check with your pharmacist for proper storage instructions during an extended outage.

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