



Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

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Power Lines and Flooding – Stay Safe Around Power Sources

As flooding conditions continue in Wisconsin, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) reminds citizens to avoid downed power lines and to be cautious in flooding conditions.

- If you observe downed power lines, treat them as if they are energized and stay clear of the line and any object it may touch. Report the downed power line by calling your local energy utility and emergency personnel as soon as possible.
- Do not attempt to remove trees or limbs from any utility line. Assume all objects touching a power line are energized.
- Keep away from flooded areas and stay indoors. Even wading in a shallow puddle or flooded basement that is exposed to a live line can cause a harmful electrical contact.
- If water is rising near your home or business, turn off electricity at the main breaker. When turning off the main power source, first ensure you are not in standing water. If there is standing water at the main breaker, turn off and unplug all electrical appliances.
- If your home or business is flooded, evacuate and do not return until the water has completely receded. Before using electricity, contact an electrician or inspector to ensure the power supply is safe to use.
- If you must use a portable generator, always operate it outside, away from doors and windows, to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Also, do not connect your generator directly into your home's main fuse box or circuit panel.

If you have any questions or concerns about the power supply at your home or business, please contact your local utility. The phone numbers for the largest utilities in Wisconsin are below.

- Alliant Energy, 1-800-862-6261
- Superior Water, Light & Power Company, 1-715-394-2200
- We Energies, 1-800-662-4PWR (4797)
- Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, 1-800-450-7240
- Xcel Energy, 1-800-895-1999

For more information about the current flooding conditions in Wisconsin, please contact the State Emergency Operations Center at 608-242-3232