

## DOWNED POWER LINE SAFETY



# TIPS FOR SAFELY CLEANING UP AFTER A STORM

Indiana weather can be unpredictable. When a storm hits, the damage it has done can be unclear. Storms often damage power lines, exposing people to deadly dangers. Keep your family and neighbors safe with these downed-line safety tips during a storm recovery.

### AVOID DANGERS:

- **WEAR PROPER SAFETY MATERIAL:** As you are cleaning up, make sure you are wearing proper protection to prevent injury. Work gloves, safety glasses, heavy-duty work shirt with long sleeves, work pants, and steel-toe work boots are a good idea if you are working on clearing large amounts of broken, splintered, or sharp debris.
- **STAY AWAY FROM POWER LINES:** Always assume a downed power line is live. Downed power lines pose a particularly dangerous threat in areas where there are lots of people trying to clear fallen trees and branches from roads and lawns. Let the professionals handle this job. It's not worth the risk. If you see a downed power line that is sparking or on fire, call your local power company immediately.
- **USE FLASHLIGHTS, NOT CANDLES:** When checking for damage to a home, never use matches, candles, lighters or kerosene lanterns as a light source. Igniting a flame while near damaged gas lines can cause an explosion.
- **NEVER OPERATE GASOLINE-POWERED EQUIPMENT INDOORS:** Gas engines emit carbon monoxide — an odorless, colorless, and poisonous gas you should never breathe.

