

eBill Benefits You and the Environment

Nearly 650,000 Consumers Energy customers are now getting their bill electronically. That adds up to a lot of trees and paper we're saving every month. In honor of Earth Month, now is a great time for you to give it a try, too.

Concerned about forgetting bills in your inbox? No worries. When you sign up for free eBill and Billing Alerts, we'll send your eBill and a text or email reminder when your payment is due.

Sign Up Today ConsumersEnergy.com



Make the bright choice with LED discounts

Just one ENERGY STAR[®] certified bulb can save you up to \$135 in energy costs over its lifetime. And with instant in-store discounts on LEDs available from Consumers Energy, the savings start before you even flip the switch.

Save up to \$5 on LED bulbs from over 180 retailers at LightingFinder-ConsumersEnergy.com.



Know what's below: 811 before you dig

DIG SAFELY ALWAYS CONTACT MISS DIG 811 three working days before digging.

Get free staking of underground utility lines and help reduce the chance of injury and expense. Make a staking request at elocate.missdig811.org

www.missdig811.org



SPRING 2016

11 Tips for **Storm Safety**

BE PREPARED:

- Keep enough supplies for 72 hours food, water, medication. Remember copies of prescriptions as well as a first aid kit. Don't forget food / water for pets
- Keep flashlights, a portable radio and extra batteries handy
- Install battery-operated carbon monoxide (CO) detectors and smoke alarms to every floor of your residence. Check batteries often
- Never use generators in enclosed areas (garages, breezeways) or near other air intakes for risk of CO poisoning
- 5. When using a generator, make sure it is properly installed by a licensed electrician, for the safety of lineworkers and other emergency responders who may come near power lines
- Charge your electronics and switch to a battery saving mode if power is lost. Limit non-essential

calls so your devices are available for emergency information or contacting 9-1-1

DURING A STORM:

- 7. Stay indoors for your safety and to let responders focus on addressing hazards or restoring power
- Stay at least 25 feet away from all downed wires and anything they might be touching, and always assume they are "live"
- 9. Never go into an area with electrical-powered equipment where there is standing water

AFTER A STORM:

- When safe to leave your home, check on neighbors or family members who may have been affected by the storm
- Monitor your local radio station or Consumers Energy's online outage map at ConsumersEnergy.com/outagemap or report power outages by calling Consumers Energy at 800-477-5050

OUTAGE ALERTS: Get estimated restoration times sent right to your phone. To enroll, visit ConsumersEnergy.com/alerts or text REG to 232273. Standard text charges may apply.

Electric OUTDOOR SAFETY

Power lines are not insulated. If you touch a power line, you will be severely injured or killed. Always assume a power line is energized and dangerous. Stay away from power lines and teach children to stay away from them, too.

Look for and avoid power lines when you:

- Move a ladder or clean gutters
- Work on top of a building
- Install an antenna or satellite dish
- Trim trees, clean your pool, paint or move a sailboat

Summer Safety Tips

- Do not climb trees near overhead power lines
- Never trim or climb a tree that has power lines running through it. If a tree branch breaks and lands on an electric line, don't touch the branch or wire
- Fly kites and model airplanes away from radio antennas, electric lines and substations. If they become tangled in power lines, they could cause an injury, fire or power outage

Keep any tools and equipment at least 10 feet away from power lines. Metal ladders, cranes and other specialized equipment require 20 feet of clearance.

• Make sure a ladder or antenna won't touch a power line if it falls



IF SOMEONE IN YOUR HOME depends on electric-powered life support equipment – such as a respirator, apnea monitor or kidney dialysis machine – the American Red Cross Identification Program may help. It is available to Consumers Energy electric customers.

The American Red Cross provides materials to help you prepare a personal emergency plan to follow in the event of a power outage.

We recommend you contact your equipment supplier for backup systems you can use during a power outage or other emergency. For more information on how to be prepared for an emergency, visit **RedCross.org.**

PLEASE NOTE: Backup generators and transportation services are not part of this program. Participation in this program does not mean your electric power will be restored sooner than other customers if there is an outage.

Identification Forms ConsumersEnergy.com/lifesupport or call 800-477-5050



Consumers Energy Count on Us®