

JCP&L Prepares for Hurricane Florence

Jersey Central Power & Light (JCP&L) is closely monitoring Hurricane Florence and is preparing should possible heavy rain, high winds and flooding interrupt service to its New Jersey customers.

As part of the storm planning process, JCP&L has secured additional line, substation, forestry and support personnel and is prepared to set up staging sites should they be needed.

Other steps JCP&L is taking to prepare for Hurricane Florence include:

- Setting up specially designed flood barriers and pumps in several key substations, as needed, as an added precaution should rising water levels cause any issues with the localized electrical system.
- Preparing to activate its Emergency Command Center and Incident Command System, if needed.
- Communicating with emergency management officials, state officials, regulators and local officials about our storm preparation efforts.
- Communicating with customers regarding storm preparation tips and safety.
- Securing helicopters to provide aerial inspections of power lines.
- Planning to staff additional dispatchers and analysts at regional dispatch offices.

The company also encourages customers to plan by following these tips.

- JCP&L reminds customers to immediately report downed wires to their utility at 888-LIGHTSS (888-544-4877), or to their local police or fire department. Customers should never go near a downed wire even if they think it is no longer carrying electricity. Extra caution should be used in areas where downed lines are tangled in trees or other debris.
- Keep flashlights and fresh batteries in your home. Avoid using candles to light your home, especially around children and pets.
- If you have a water well and pump, keep an emergency supply of bottled water and/or fill your bathtub with fresh water.
- Stock an emergency supply of convenience foods that do not require cooking.
- Have a hard-wired telephone or a charged cell phone handy in the event you need to report your electricity is out. Mobile phones can be charged in your vehicle using a car charger when the power is out.
- Gather extra blankets or a sleeping bag for each person.
- Do not use gas stoves, kerosene heaters or other open-flame heat sources indoors. These can cause deadly carbon monoxide gas to build up in your home.
- Keep a battery-powered radio with extra batteries on hand. Tune to a local station for current storm information.

For updated information, follow JCP&L on Twitter@JCP_L, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/JCPandL or online at www.jcp-l.com.