



State of New Hampshire Department of Safety

Robert L. Quinn, Commissioner

Richard C. Bailey, Jr., Assistant Commissioner

Homeland Security and Emergency Management

Jennifer L. Harper, Director



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Paul D. Raymond, Jr.

Strategic Communications Administrator

C: (603) 892-5804

PRESS RELEASE

POWER RESTORATION A MULTI-DAY PROCESS FOR PARTS OF THE STATE

CONCORD, N.H. – As of 1:00 P.M. on Sunday, approximately 40,500 power outages remain across the state. At its peak, more than 61,000 outages were reported in cities and towns statewide. Hundreds of utility crews are working around the clock to assess the damage and restore power.

Power restoration for parts of the state could last into Tuesday evening. Residents and visitors without power are encouraged to review and update their family emergency plan in case conditions warrant seeking warm shelter elsewhere.

If you do have to relocate, consider seeking shelter in a space where you can safely segregate from others outside of your immediate household, such as a hotel. State officials remind everyone to follow COVID-19 recommendations that include keeping at least six feet of space between you and individuals who are not part of your immediate household, wear masks in public spaces, and frequently wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds or longer. Also, be sure to include at least two facemasks or cloth face coverings in your emergency kit for every member of your household and cleaning supplies or hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol.

“Everyone is encouraged to take time to prepare in case your family needs to find alternative housing,” said New Hampshire Homeland Security and Emergency Management Director Jennifer Harper. “Have a plan so you know what to do and where to go should temperatures in your home get too cold.”

NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management is working closely with the Public Utilities Commission to monitor outages and provide resources to affected communities as needed. During outages, the Public Utilities Commission continuously monitors utility issues and works closely with all agencies involved in the coordinated restoration effort.

“Power utility crews have been working to clear roads and restore power. Additional crews are continuing to arrive throughout the day,” Public Utilities Commission Chairwoman Dianne Martin said. “We expect the number of outages to continue to decrease significantly over the next twenty-four hours. Be assured Commission safety staff are working with power utility staff to ensure restoration as quickly as possible.”

Office: 110 Smokey Bear Boulevard, Concord, N.H.
Mailing Address: 33 Hazen Drive, Concord, N.H. 03305
603-271-2231, 1-800-852-3792, Fax 603-223-3609
State of New Hampshire TDD Access: Relay 1-800-735-2964

Customers are reminded to report outages to their utility provider at least once daily until power is restored:

Eversource1-800-662-7764
Liberty Utilities.....1-855-349-9455
NH Electric Co-Op1-800-343-6432
Unitil.....1-888-301-7700

Harper and Martin ask that everyone check on friends and neighbors when it is safe to do so, especially the elderly or those who may need additional assistance. Follow these tips to help stay safe until power is restored:

- Visit ReadyNH.gov to learn more about keeping safe during emergencies.
- Signup for NH Alerts, the State’s emergency notification system to receive location-specific safety information. Also, download the app for iPhone and Android devices.
- Monitor National Weather Service radio or broadcast weather reports to keep track of changing conditions.
- If you encounter a downed power line, stay away and call 9-1-1.
- Do not use a gas range or oven as an alternate source of heat.
- If you use a generator, do NOT run it inside a home or garage, and ensure it is at least 10 feet away from any doors, windows or vents.
- Electric power outages can affect gas furnaces and other appliances. Call a professional for service if you experience any issues. If you smell gas, have everyone leave the building and call 9-1-1 immediately. Stay outside until help arrives.

The US Department of Agriculture notes that your refrigerator will keep food safe for up to 4 hours during a power outage. Keep the door closed as much as possible. Discard refrigerated perishable food such as meat, poultry, fish, eggs, and leftovers after 4 hours without power. A full freezer will hold a safe temperature for approximately 48 hours or 24 hours if it is half-full, as long as the door remains closed. Never taste food to determine its safety. *When in doubt, throw it out!*

For emergencies, call 9-1-1. If you cannot call, you can text 9-1-1 for emergencies in New Hampshire.

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