

## Be Prepared!

As everyone who lived in New England December 2008 knows, storms can happen anytime of year, especially during the winter months. These storms can cause downed trees, power lines and power outages. Holden Light crews respond day or night to these emergencies to restore power as quickly and efficiently to your home. If you should lose power, we have a few tips and tricks to ensure your safety and minimize the disruption to your household during these outages.



### Preparing for storms:

- ❄ Always have HMLD's phone number handy. (508)829-0275. A couple of good places would be either on the refrigerator or near your phone.
- ❄ Have working flashlights strategically placed around your home where all family members will be able to locate them.
- ❄ For storm information have a battery or self powered radio on hand.
- ❄ Keep extra batteries for flashlights and radios.
- ❄ Have a manual can opener, canned and dried foods and drinking water stored in case of an extended outage.

**If you depend on life support equipment call us at 508-829-0275 so we can add your address to our vital list.**

## **During the Storm:**

❄️ If power does go out, check to see if you have power in other parts of your house. You may have blown a fuse or tripped a breaker. If you haven't tripped a breaker or blown a fuse please call the HMLD (508)829-0275 to report that your residence is out of power.

❄️ Turn off any appliances that were on before the outage. Also unplug sensitive electronic equipment.

❄️ Leave a light on to let you know when power has been restored.

## **After the storm:**

❄️ If power has been restored to your neighborhood and your residence is still without power, please check your circuit breakers. If this is not the problem, contact the HMLD at 508-829-0275.

❄️ If your house has been flooded, check with a licensed electrician before using any power.

❄️ To avoid overloading circuits reconnect appliances slowly when power is restored.

## **A few guidelines for operating generators:**

❄️ Have a licensed electrician install your generator.

❄️ Your main breaker must be in the "off" position while operating the generator.

❄️ Only operate generators outside for good ventilation of carbon monoxide exhaust and **never** operate a generator indoors regardless of ventilation.

