

## What to do if your power goes out...

1. **Call BMU** to report an outage or downed power line: 859-986-4391. We have an after-hours dispatch services for emergencies only.
2. **Never touch a downed line.**
3. **Turn off electrical equipment**, including furnaces, heaters, stove, washer, dryers, TV, etc. (Major appliances can be turned off at the electrical panel box.) This helps prevent overloading the system when power is initially restored. Leave a porch light and one inside light switch turned "on" so you and BMU can see when service is restored.
4. When neighboring power has been restored and your power remains off, check your panel and **Reset circuit breakers or check for blown fuses.** If they're okay, call BMU.
5. **Once power is restored**, please turn on large appliances and air/heat units slowly (in 30 minute increments).
6. **If you use a generator** please be sure to use manufacturer's guidelines and turn your main breaker off in order to prevent "back feed" into our system for your safety and BMU employees safety.

### Contact **BMU OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT**

about issues with electric, pole lights, water and/or sewer; which are serviced by BMU...such as:

Waterline Main Breaks

Power Lines Down

Outages

Street or Private Security Lights Not Working

(Contact Blue Grass Energy if they service the area of the light)



**BEREA**  
**MUNICIPAL UTILITIES**

Berea Municipal Utilities

200 Harrison Rd

P.O. Box 926

Berea, KY 40403

Phone (859) 986-4391

Fax (859) 986-5884

**bereautilities.com**

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**Berea Municipal Utilities** works hard to ensure safe, reliable electric, sewer and water services.



When cold weather strikes, our infrastructure is placed under extreme stress, especially when temperatures drop below 10°F.

BMU would like to remind our customers that you can help by following a few simple steps to voluntarily conserving during adverse weather.



### Restoring Power Quickly

When the power goes out, BMU crews swing into action immediately. Once safety needs are met, we work our way "down the line." Repairs during large, storm-related outages may take a little longer because the damage can be widespread and weather conditions can hamper our efforts. We encourage you to be prepared and we appreciate your patience as we work as quickly as possible to restore your service.

## How you can help...

BMU electrical system typically has peak demands. Take precautions to ensure you are not adding any unnecessary stress to the electric grid during our **peak hours of 6:00 -8:00 a.m. and 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.** by:

Try to refrain or limit use of large electrical appliances during the peak hours listed above.

Turning off and/or unplugging any unnecessary appliances, electronics and/or electrical equipment.

Leave the thermostat set at a "comfortable" temperature. Setting it higher than 65°F will force your heating unit to operate at frequent intervals, causing wear and tear on your system and using more kWh on your utility bill. This will not only help the utility by lessening the demand on our system but it will save on your monthly usage/bill.

During the day, turn off all unnecessary lighting and open the window coverings to allow sunlight to help warm your home. If you're gone during the day, also turn off all unnecessary computers, appliances and electronic devices.

During the nighttime hours, only use lighting that is essential, turning off lights in unoccupied rooms. Close window coverings to avoid heat loss.

**SPECIAL NEEDS:** Does anyone in your home depend on **life-support equipment or have special needs?** Be sure to have a backup system and a plan of action for an outage.



### Know where your water cutoff is located

Water is a precious resource. It is vital that all household members learn how to shut off the water at the main valve servicing your home.

Before an emergency happens, locate the shut-off valve for the water line that enters your house. This simple step would aid you to shut the water off before any major damage is incurred.

**Waterline Main Breaks:** When a water main breaks, we immediately send our crews out to the leak and work until the leak is fixed. Water service may be interrupted. Once repaired there may be air and/or sediment in your system; which can cause discolored water. The water is still treated and is safe to drink.

Run your bathtub water on cold about 2 minutes or until water is clear. Repeat in 20 minutes, if water is still discolored.

Do not do laundry during a water main break.

## PROTECT AND PREVENT

Water has unique property in that it expands as it freezes; which puts tremendous pressure on whatever is containing it. Expanding water can cause pipes to break.

Extremely cold weather creates stress upon certain areas within the BMU water distribution system. By following the preventative steps below, before cold weather arrives, you can help avoid damage and water loss:

Install specific products made to insulate water pipes like a "pipe sleeve" or installing UL-listed "heat tape," or similar materials on exposed water pipes. Insulate both hot and cold pipes in areas that run against exterior walls or are in unheated locations. Seal off outside air leaks(ex.: crawl spaces, foundation vents, etc.)

Open cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around exposed plumbing.

When the weather is extremely cold, let the cold water drip from the faucet farthest from where the water enters the house through the foundation. Even a small stream of water helps prevent pipes from freezing.

If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat set on 55° in your home. Unattended vacant property should be checked on frequently and/or water should be turned off and lines drained to prevent water breaks/loss.

Make sure you completely shut off and drain lines feeding areas that you will not be using (ex.: vacant properties, out-buildings or barns, etc.)