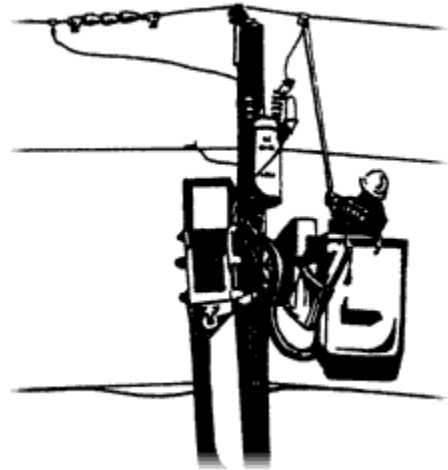


Lights Back On

When Choptank Electric Cooperative experiences multiple power outages, its goal is to restore service to the greater number of consumers in the shortest amount of time. Repair crews begin at the power source and work out to the individual services along the system. Dangerous problems, such as downed power lines, are attended to as soon as possible.

Our service restoration priorities are:

1. **Transmission lines** - These are high-voltage lines that move bulk electricity from a generating plant to a substation or between substations.
2. **Substations** - Substations are electrical facilities that contain equipment for switching or regulating the voltage of electricity. These lower the amount of electrical voltage from transmission lines so that the electricity can be transmitted through distribution lines.
3. **Main distribution lines** - These are the 7,200-volt lines that you see along roadways.
4. **Tap lines** - Tap lines are electric feeder lines with limited capacity that run from a main distribution line and serve small numbers of consumers.
5. **Individual service** - This is the line that runs from the pole transformer to the customer's electric meter.



Electric utility systems are constructed with protective devices such as fuses and circuit breakers. These confine the outage to specific areas, limiting the number of consumers affected by the power interruption.

For example, if a tree falls on a tap line, only that line would be without service. Other consumers served from the main distribution line would still have service, although their lights may blink momentarily.

If you have questions about how your cooperative restores service after a storm or other outages, please call us at 1.877.892.0001 or visit our website at www.choptankelectric.coop.