



## An Important Public Safety Message

High winds are often a part of storms in northern Ontario. The likelihood of trees coming down on and near power lines is a reality. Power lines on the ground can be energized. In storm situations, electrical hazards likely exist and must be recognized. Trimming or cutting trees in proximity to lines is not safe and is dangerous. It is important to know that there may be hazards that you are unaware of. The need to get things “back to normal” should not take precedence over your safety.

If you arrive at a scene with downed power lines:

- Don't clear tree branches or other storm debris until the power is disconnected or powerlines are repaired.
- Downed powerlines may be live. Stay back at least 10 metres or 33 feet (the length of a school bus). Electricity can travel through water and the ground around powerlines.
- Utility crews must deem the area electrically safe prior to enter.

**Immediately call the local electric utility to report any downed wires.**

**1-844-901-9473 (WIRE)**

