

Georgia Power offers tips on how to be storm ready

As temperatures heat up and summer storm season approaches, Georgia Power Company is encouraging customers across the state to take steps now to stay safe and be prepared for severe weather, including thunderstorms that can bring heavy rain, lightning, strong winds and potential power outages.

The company emphasizes that spring and summer weather can be unpredictable and preparation is key this time of year.

crews are always ready and positioned across the state to safely and quickly respond to outages whenever storms impact the area. Whether preparing for severe weather or exploring ways to stay informed during potential outages, customers can find helpful resources at GeorgiaPower.com and on the company's social media channels.

Important safety tips for the season include:

*** Charge devices like cell phones and prepare or restock your emergency kit.** A well-

stocked emergency supply kit may include canned goods, prescription medications, flashlights and other essential items.

*** Watch for and don't touch downed wires.** Never attempt to remove tree branches from power lines. Downed power lines may also be hidden by debris or fallen trees after a storm.

*** Drive with caution.** Watch for utility crews working to restore power, and move over a lane for stopped emergency and utility vehicles. It's the law in Georgia.

*** Don't step in**

standing water or saturated ground where downed lines may be present. They could be electrified.

Georgia Power urges customers to prioritize safety during severe weather and provides the following tools to stay connected and informed.

*** Outage Alerts** – Customers subscribed to our free Georgia Power Outage Alert service will receive personalized notifications and updates via text message. Check that your contact number is up to date to receive the latest information.

*** Outage & Storm Center** – Available at GeorgiaPower.com/Storm, customers can visit this site to check their contact information is updated to receive Outage Alerts, report and check the status of outages, and access useful safety tips and information. Customers can also report and check the status of an outage 24 hours a day by contacting Georgia Power at 888-891-0938.

*** Outage Map** – Housed within the Outage & Storm Center, Georgia Power's

interactive Outage Map provides near real-time information, allowing users to see where outages are occurring across the state and track estimated restoration times.

*** Georgia Power Mobile App** – Download the Georgia Power mobile app for Apple and Android devices to access storm and outage information on the go.

*** Social Media** – Follow Georgia Power across Facebook, Instagram, and X for storm tips, outage updates, customer service, and more.

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“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.”
Matthew 5:23-24 (NIV)

Seeking Forgiveness With Grace

Forgiving others for perceived wrongdoing against us can sometimes be a difficult undertaking. Something we often find harder, however, is seeking forgiveness from others. This can be tough for many reasons, ranging from a fear we will not receive forgiveness from someone we value our relationship with to feelings that someone is not deserving of our apologies to begin with. In seeking forgiveness, we must first make attempts to rectify our wrongdoings with sincere intention. We must also seek to understand the effect of our actions in these cases, ultimately striving to become better individuals in owning up to a mistake and learning from it. In the Gospel of Matthew, Christ emphasizes the necessity of this, essentially telling his disciples that they must forgo even the presentation of a gift at the altar (a significant ritual in Jewish tradition during His time) in order to seek out the forgiveness of someone they have wronged. Notably, Christ points out one way in which the Lord is served through our service to others, and that service, here, is simply acknowledging and reconciling a wrong with those we affect. We are absolutely taught to forgive, though we also must remember to seek forgiveness with grace, as Christ teaches.

—James Stone

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