

Stay on top of back-to-school budgets with payment alerts

Busy back-to-school time is just around the corner, and we know how quickly things can add up. With NorthWestern Energy's payment alerts, you'll get timely reminders about upcoming bills and payment confirmation — helping you stay organized and keep your budget on track.

Sign up today in My Energy Account to receive alerts by text or email and take one more thing off your to-do list.

Stay cool and save energy this summer

As temperatures rise, so can your energy bills. Here are some practical tips to help you stay cool while conserving energy and saving money all summer long:

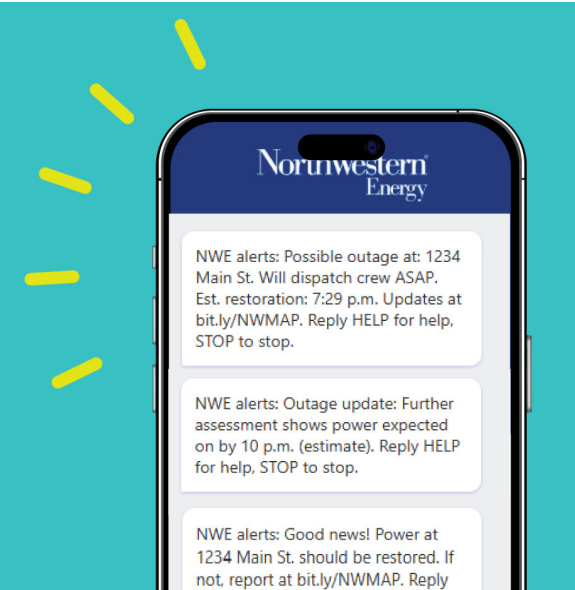
- **Cover windows to keep out heat.** Close your blinds or curtains to keep sunshine from heating your house during the day.
- **Turn up your thermostat.** Set your thermostat at a temperature you find comfortable. The smaller the difference between the indoor and outdoor temperatures, the lower your overall cooling bill will be.
- **Don't set your air conditioner lower than usual** when turning it on. It won't cool faster and may waste energy and money.
- **Switch off ceiling fans** when leaving a room. Fans cool people, not spaces, by creating wind chill.
- **Keep hot air from leaking into your home.** Apply caulk or weatherstripping to seal air leaks around doors and windows.
- **Avoid using your oven.** Cooking with a conventional oven can add unwanted heat to your house. Consider grilling outside instead.

Do you know what to do during outages?

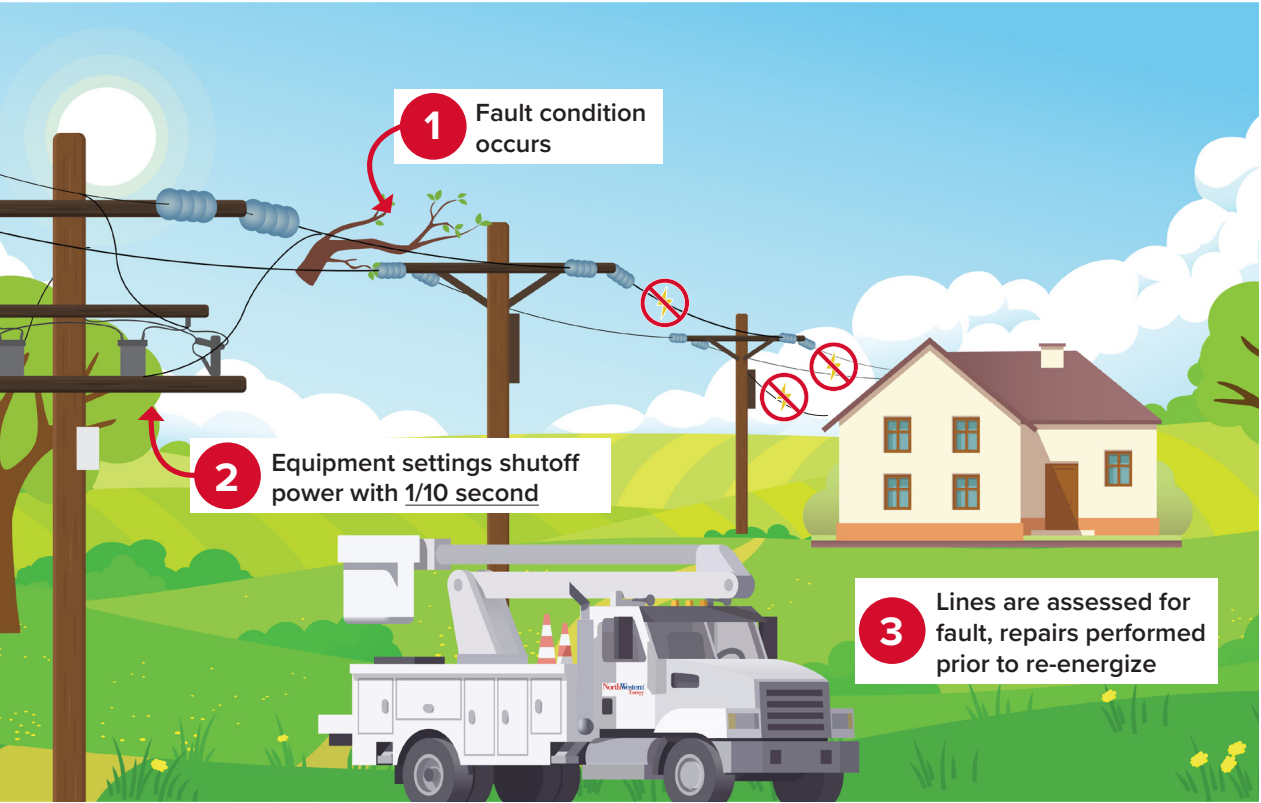
Summer thunderstorms and windstorms can cause unexpected outages at your home or business. Here are some important tips to help you and your family during an outage:

- **Check fuses or circuit breakers** to rule out problems with electricity inside your home. If a fuse is blown, replace it with the appropriate fuse. If a breaker has tripped, reset it from off to on. If you are unsure about fixing a fuse or circuit breaker, call an electrician.
- **Sign up for outage alerts** in My Energy Account. You can opt to be contacted via email and/or text if your power goes out and when it's restored.
- **Check our online outage map.** Find the most up-to-date outage information on our online outage map at NorthWesternEnergy.com/outages.
- **Do not open freezers or refrigerators** more than necessary. A refrigerator will keep food cold for about 4 hours if it is unopened. A full freezer will keep the temperature for approximately 48 hours (24 hours if it is half full) if the door remains closed.

For more information about safety during outages, please visit NorthWesternEnergy.com/outagesafety.



Powerline settings help us prevent wildfires



Keep your distance from downed lines

Summer storms may damage power lines. Contact with downed power lines or nearby objects may cause serious injury or death. Downed lines may be energized even if they don't hum or spark, and lines that appear dead could become re-energized at any moment. Downed power lines may energize the ground or nearby puddles, metal fences, vehicles, trees, power poles, and other wires.

Be especially alert for downed lines hidden by water and tree branches after high winds and storms. Consider any downed electric or communication line to be energized and dangerous. Call 911 and NorthWestern Energy to report it. Stay as far away as possible from all downed or low lines.

Outages may be more likely during summer

NorthWestern Energy is doing our part to help prevent wildfires. One way we do that is by changing the way we operate the electrical grid when fire danger is high.

We use Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS) to make the electrical system more sensitive to potential hazards. If a fault occurs, such as a tree branch contacting a power line, power is shut off automatically.

A line that has been automatically de-energized will remain off until our crews can patrol the area to check for damage before safely restoring power.

Learn more at NorthWesternEnergy.com/wildfire.