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Safety! Messenger

Important safety information from Middleborough Gas & Electric Department

July 2017

Let's go fly a kite – safely!

Flying a kite can be great summer fun, but make sure you and your children know how to stay safe while watching the sky.

- Build or **fly kites made of wood or plastic**, never metal. Use cloth for the tail.
- **Use cotton, linen or nylon string** – never metallic thread, wire or wire-reinforced string.
- Be aware of your surroundings. **Fly kites in wide-open areas**, away from hazards like houses, roads, and electrical equipment.
- **Never fly your kite near power lines or substations**, even if you are far away.
- **Fly away from trees.** If your kite is caught in a tree, do not try to get it if there are wires in or near the tree.
- **Don't fly kites in rainy weather.** Wet kite string is a strong conductor of electricity.
- **Please don't release balloons**, especially metallic balloons, where they could fly into power lines.



Don't
Touch!

Kite stuck in a power line? Call us for help.

If your kite gets caught in or near power lines, electrical equipment or a substation, leave it there. NEVER try to retrieve it yourself. Do not touch any part of the kite or string. Call MGED at 508-947-3023 for help.



Be ready for stormy weather

Storm safety starts with planning before a storm is on its way.



Take steps now to stay safe and sound when storms strike.



Before a storm arrives:

Assemble an **emergency storm kit**. Include flashlights and batteries, bottled water, and non-perishable food. Don't forget special items like pet food, medications and baby supplies.



Update your **contact** information with MGED by calling us now! Fully charge cell phones and tablets.

Make an **emergency plan**. Consider how your household will get emergency alerts, get to safe locations if needed, or communicate without phones or the internet.



If someone in your home relies on electric-powered medical equipment, call MGED to **register for the Emergency Medical Equipment Notification List**. Make plans for an alternate location with power where they can go during an outage.

When a storm strikes:

Stay indoors. If you see a downed wire, stay away and do not go out to investigate. Call us for help at 508-947-3023.



If the power goes out, **unplug or turn off** most lamps, TVs and appliances. Keep freezer and refrigerator doors shut (discard perishable food after 24 hours).

To report an outage, visit our Outage Center at MGED.com, or call us at 508-947-3023. The Outage Center will also have outage and power restoration updates.



Never run a generator in a basement, attached garage, or any closed area. The exhaust gases from the generator contain **carbon monoxide**, an invisible, odorless, poisonous gas.

For more ways to prepare and stay safe, see "Your Guide to Storm Safety" at MGED.com or ask us for a copy. You can also visit ready.gov or fema.org.