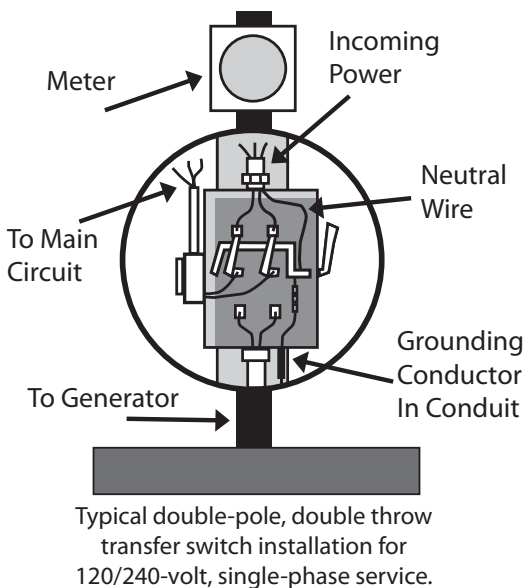
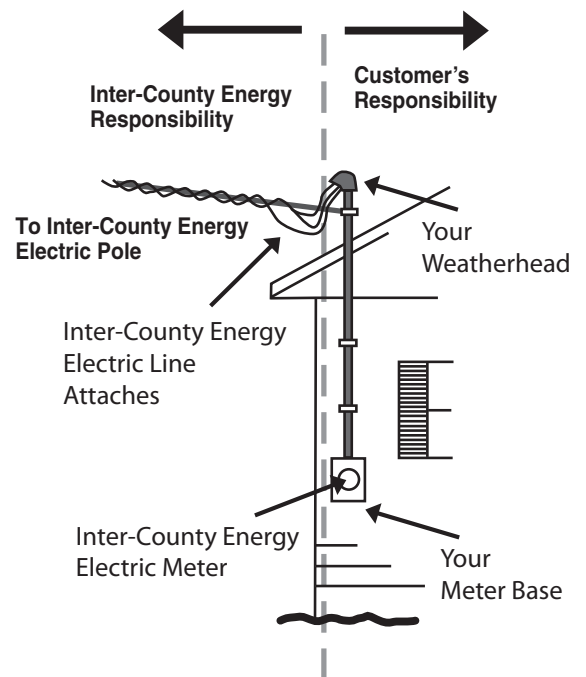


After a storm, what can I do to help restore electricity more quickly to my home?

When trees fall onto power lines during a storm, the stress can pull electric equipment away from your home. To know what this equipment looks like and what repairs need to be made, look at the illustration to the right. Everything on the left side of the dotted line is Inter-County Energy's responsibility to repair. Everything on the right side belongs to you. It is your responsibility to work with an electrician to make repairs.

The equipment that belongs to you has to be repaired before Inter-County Energy can restore electricity to your home. To save time and have your home ready for power when it is restored to your area, you can take two important steps.

1. Contact Inter-County Energy to disconnect the lines to your weather head. If you or an electrician touch the wires before the lines are disconnected by Inter-County Energy the result could be deadly.
2. After Inter-County Energy has disconnected your wires from the main electric lines, get an electrician to fix the weather head and your meter base. Then, when Inter-County Energy has made repairs in your area, you'll be ready to be connected to receive power.
3. Inter-County Energy hopes this information will help the next time trees or wind force power lines to the ground in your area. Contact your local office if you have any questions.



Use generators responsibly

WARNING:

If you connect a portable generator to the main electrical supply coming into the house, the electrical generator could feed back into your electrical cooperative's system and electrocute workers who are repairing the electrical lines.

To avoid back feeding of electricity into utility systems, you must have a qualified, licensed electrician install a double-pole, double-throw transfer switch (per illustration) between the generator and utility power in compliance with all state and local electrical codes. **ELECTRICAL INSPECTION REQUIRED.**

Your generator might not be large enough to handle the load of all lights, appliances, TV, etc., at one time. To prevent dangerous overloading, calculate wattage requirements correctly.

EXTENSION CORDS

When using an appliance or tool at a considerable distance from the generator, a three-wire extension cord that has a three-blade grounding plug and a three-slot receptacle that accepts the tool's plug should be used. A cord of adequate size must be used.