

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**LIBERTY UTILITIES - EMPIRE  
RECOGNIZE SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK**

JOPLIN, MO – March 7, 2018 – Liberty Utilities – Empire recognizes March 4 - March 10 as Severe Weather Awareness Week. The company urges customers to be aware of safety preparations and precautions as we enter the 2018 spring storm season.

Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Arkansas all experience various forms of severe weather, including increased wind speeds, lightning, hail, heavy rainfall, and tornadic activity. These conditions can lead to power outages and dangers, such as downed power lines.

Customers should consider how they will respond if severe weather results in wide-spread or prolonged power outages. Steps can be taken now to access this information by visiting the Empire Outage Center at [www.empiredistrict.com/outages](http://www.empiredistrict.com/outages). Power outages can also be reported via the link on this page. Information includes:

- The Outage Restoration Process
- How to Prepare for an Outage
- Storm Season Planning Tips
- Downed Power Line Safety
- Weatherhead and Meter Base Damage
- Generator Safety

If severe weather occurs, safely restoring power to customers is the highest priority. Crews will work tirelessly to restore service, Contact Center personnel will take calls around the clock, and periodic updates will be provided via the website and social media channels. In these conditions, customers should remember to avoid downed powerlines which should always be considered live and deadly. If you spot a downed powerline, stay away and keep others away. Call 1-800-206-2300 or 911, immediately to make a report.

Based in Joplin, Missouri, Empire District is a subsidiary of Liberty Utilities Co. and headquarters for the Liberty Utilities Central Region, providing electric, natural gas, water, and wastewater service to nearly 320,000 customers across six states. A subsidiary of the company provides fiber optic services. For more information regarding Empire District, visit [www.empiredistrict.com](http://www.empiredistrict.com). For more information about Liberty Utilities, visit [www.libertyutilities.com](http://www.libertyutilities.com).

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