



# Press Release

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*July 18, 2010 - 2 p.m.*

### **Update: City Responds to Storm Damage**

AMES, Iowa – Ames Electric Services crews are working to restore power to those who lost electricity during Saturday's storm. Of the original 5,000 customers who experienced an outage, approximately 1,000 are still without electricity.

While several clusters and individual residences around the city have lost power, a large outage is located in the area near HyVee West, including Beedle Drive, Dotson Drive, and West Lincoln Way neighborhoods. A second large outage has been identified in the Sawyer School area, including Arizona Avenue. A third outage has been identified in the south campus neighborhood, including Beach Avenue, Gaskill Drive, Friley Road, and Cessna Street. In these areas, power poles have been snapped and large trees have come down across power lines. Crews continue to work in these neighborhoods, and hope to have power restored by late afternoon.

Customers without electric service or who notice limbs across the power lines should call the Power Outage number at 239-5240, but only call one time to be entered into the system. Ames Electric Services crews will restore power to individual homes. However, homeowners are responsible for repairs to the service line and service mast serving their home, and should seek help from a qualified electrician, if needed. For safety reasons, residents are urged to avoid any downed power lines.

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Residents cleaning up from storm may place downed branches and limbs in the public right of way (the area between the sidewalk and the curb). Branches and limbs should be cut into three-foot sections. The City of Ames will begin pick-up of these limbs on Monday. Residents should not sweep or dump storm debris into the street. Collecting all the branches and limbs could take several weeks. As an alternate, residents may use the drop-off site east of the City Cemetery on East 13<sup>th</sup> Street between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., seven days a week.

The Storm Information Line (239-5678) will be deactivated at 3 p.m.

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