

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS MAP DEFINITIONS

Smart Switches

Smart switches automatically reroute electricity around problem areas so customers experience fewer and shorter power outages.

Reliability Improvements

To help reduce power outages, ComEd is installing, repairing or replacing electric equipment or trimming trees that have the potential to interfere with power lines.

Lightning Protection

To help reduce power outages, ComEd is installing devices that will further protect equipment from power outages caused by lightning.

Mainline Underground Cable Improvement

To help reduce power outages, ComEd is testing and replacing high-voltage, underground cables that carry electricity from electric substations.

Storm Improvements

In neighborhoods with large numbers of trees and frequent storm outages, ComEd is upgrading overhead power lines with new overhead cables. The new cables are stronger, have a protective coating and are spaced closer together to help reduce power outages caused by severe weather, trees and wildlife. ComEd is also replacing overhead power lines in some areas and with underground cable so customers experience fewer power outages.

Tree Trimming

To help reduce power outages, ComEd uses trained, qualified arborists to trim trees and branches that have the potential to interfere with power lines and ensure equipment is clear and safe from vegetation growth. This program includes tree trimming, tree removal and clearing storm-damaged trees or tree limbs from power lines.

Neighborhood Underground Cable Improvement

To help reduce power outages, ComEd is refurbishing or replacing underground cable that brings electricity to residential areas. Cables are refurbished by injecting an insulation compound into existing cable while it is still in the ground to protect it from outside elements.