

Our Work to Upgrade Reliability

Montgomery County Progress Results

(December 2011 Update)

1. Trimming Trees

Many of Pepco's recent outages are a direct result of trees falling on power lines. Pepco is aggressively trimming trees along public rights of way to obtain increased clearance between the overhead electric wires and existing trees. Pepco also will work with counties, communities and homeowners to remove potentially hazardous trees which fall outside of the company's right of way area.

1. We trimmed trees along 180 miles of power lines in the county in December, bringing the year-to-date total to 1,036 miles.

2. Improving Priority Feeders

A feeder is an electric power line that distributes power to up to 1,100 customers within a specific geographic area. Each year, across Montgomery County, Pepco selects and replaces feeders that are performing poorly. As part of the Reliability Enhancement Plan, Pepco has expanded this program by 45 percent.

2. In December, work was completed on 11 projects in the areas of Bethesda, Norbeck, Colesville, Kensington and Darnestown. Work continues on projects in the areas of Chevy Chase, Darnestown, Takoma Park, Silver Spring, Bethesda, Germantown, Glen Echo, Cabin John, Fairland and Gaithersburg. We have completed 37 of 47 projects year-to-date and will carry over ten projects in Chevy Chase, Silver Spring, Potomac, Bethesda, Takoma Park, Germantown, Sandy Spring and Wheaton into 2012.

3. Preparing for System Growth

Similar to upgrading electric service to your home to accommodate new appliances and electronic devices, Pepco is continuing to upgrade power lines and is adding circuits to accommodate new customers and support increased energy use by existing customers.

3. All four projects identified during the initial stages of the plan were completed during 2011.

4. Installing Advanced Technology

Pepco is installing advanced control systems that allow the electric system to identify problems and perform switching automatically. The technology will automatically isolate failed pieces of equipment and restore most of the affected customers within minutes of the failure.

4. We completed work on the 15 remaining projects slated for completion in 2011 in the following areas: Linden, Bethesda-Potomac-Quince Orchard-Wood Acres-Beverly Farms-Longwood, Viers Mill Rd-Emory Grove-Norbeck-Rossmoor.

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5. Replacing Aging Infrastructure

Pepco has a long-standing project to replace underground cable in residential developments that for the most part was installed during the 1970s. This program replaces cable to prevent future failures and increases the reliability of the distribution system for customers supplied from the underground system.

5. In December, we replaced or renewed 78,114 feet (15 miles) of cable in the county. Work was completed in the areas of Karen Dr., Cinnamon Woods, Glen Oaks, West Side Dr., Gregorscroft and on Comprint Ct. Work began in the areas of Walkers Choice, Strathmore at Bel Pre, Drews Ct., Gelding Ln, Copenhagen Dr. and Red Mill. Work continued in Democracy Blvd., Scotland Dr., Quail Valley, Farmington Estates, Overlea, Winterset Dr., Cessna Ave., and Partridge Estates. In total, we have replaced or renewed 190 miles of cable year-to-date.

6. Selective Undergrounding and Supply Line Enhancements

In areas where traditional modifications on the overhead system have not produced the desired results, Pepco will selectively replace the overhead system with an underground system. In addition, measures will be taken to further protect the high-voltage substation supply lines to reduce the number of outages. By increasing the reliability of the supply lines, Pepco increases the reliability of the substation, which in turn improves the performance of the 12 to 15 individual distribution feeders supplied by each substation.

6. Earlier this year, we narrowed the list to two feeders meeting the undergrounding criteria in the county and started an engineering evaluation on those two feeders. With regards to supply line enhancement, 18 projects were planned for 2011, all of which were completed. Corrective measures and tree trim on additional feeders will continue during 2012. Also, we cleared vegetation on one circuit in the county; 15 circuits were cleared during 2011.