

Blinks:



Why Your Lights Flicker

What is a blink?

Have your lights ever flickered off for just a second or two?

That momentary outage is called a **blink**, and while it may seem like a problem – it's actually a sign that our system is working to protect your power and safety.

Why do blinks happen?

Blinks occur when our system detects a fault, such as:

- A tree limb brushing a power line
- A squirrel or animal on the line
- Lightning strikes or weather events
- Equipment malfunction or switching operations

When this happens, a protective device called a **recloser** quickly opens and closes the circuit (like a reset switch) to isolate the issue and keep power flowing to the rest of the system.

Blinks prevent bigger problems

Think of a **blink** as your system's way of:

- Avoiding a **longer outage**
- Preventing **fires or equipment damage**
- Keeping crews from needing to respond unless necessary

Without this protection, minor faults could cause widespread outages or dangerous conditions.

Are blinks normal?

✓ **YES**, occasional blinks are normal, especially during storms or windy weather

⊘ **NO**, frequent blinks could mean something is wrong. Please let us know if:

- You're experiencing repeated blinks in a short period
- Your lights dim or flicker without reason
- You notice damaged lines or trees on or near lines

*If you believe your blinks are part of a bigger issue, please call us at **1-800-248-8413** or email **hcremc@hcremc.com** to report it.*