

## Ice Storm Kills One, Cuts Power to 450,000

Friday, December 16, 2005

Associated Press



**COLUMBIA, S.C.** — A blast of freezing rain across Georgia and the Carolinas on Thursday closed schools, snarled traffic and caused power outages to more than 450,000 customers. At least one death was blamed on the storm when an ice-laden tree crashed through a man's house.

The widespread outages were caused by the ice that formed on tree limbs and fell onto power lines. In Kannapolis, just north of Charlotte, N.C., authorities say the weight of that ice buckled a 100-foot-tall tree that crushed 58-year-old David Ralph Jones while reclined on a couch in his living room.

While electricity was quickly restored to some, outages by early evening still totaled 260,000 in South Carolina's upstate, 113,000 in western and central North Carolina, 55,000 in northeast Georgia and 34,700 in the Atlanta area.

"The trees and power lines are down everywhere on the road. It's just dangerous to be out," said Rebecca Neal, who was using blankets to keep warm in her powerless Greenville home and thinking about finding a hotel for the night. School systems canceled or cut short classes across north Georgia, the affected parts of the Carolinas and into western stretches of Virginia.

The ice was blamed for a school bus accident in Cherokee County, on the northern end of suburban Atlanta. The driver swerved to avoid a large branch that had fallen on the road, forcing the vehicle's rear tires to slide off the road. None of the 23 students on the bus was injured.

Duke Power's Trew said there was no timetable when power would be restored but a warming trend Friday would help, with 7,500 workers being dispatched to the task. "Temperatures are slowly warming, degree by degree, so the melting is under way after a very significant ice storm," said Doug Outlaw of the National Weather Service office at the Greenville-Spartanburg Airport.

South Carolina: 4,198,068 North Carolina: 8,541,221 Georgia: 8,829,203 Virginia: 7,459,827 Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2004 Population Estimates, Census 2000, 1990 Census

1. In paragraph form, explain the circumstances that led to one person being killed.
2. Thoroughly explain precautionary measures that one could implement to prevent such a tragedy.
3. What percentage, overall, is presently without power? Explain.
4. What led to the widespread outages throughout the southeast? DO **NOT** SAY "ICE"
5. In paragraph form, compare and contrast the total customers, by state, that remain without power.
6. What is the mean, median, mode, range, and if applicable, outlier of the states population.
7. Excluding the death, explain other incidents that have occurred as a result of the storm.
8. In the passage above, in paragraph form, explain at least seven ways using the "**Reading Across The Curriculum**" poster simplifies understanding of the material. Be specific.
9. In paragraph form, list at least five ways using guidelines from the **Writing Guidelines** will make you a stronger and more convincing writer; specifically, on The Daughtry Times.
10. Using contextual clues, explain the meaning of the italicized word *laden* above.
11. In paragraph form, explain five legitimate and educational purposes behind The Daughtry Times.