



RECORD BROKEN

LCEC set a record for reliability of the electric system in 2014.

A well designed system, comprehensive maintenance plans, and technology in the field helps ensure you have power when you need it.

Service interruptions have been caused primarily by storms and trees. Less than 10 percent of outages were attributed to electric facilities. This year, performance is off to a very good start. It's the result of scheduled maintenance, vegetation management, process improvement and the use of technology to identify potential issues before they become a problem. When a problem does occur, LCEC is quick to respond.

Always working to keep your RATES LOW!

LCEC understands that competitive electric rates are almost as important to customers as the peace of mind in knowing that the lights will come on when the switch is flipped. For that reason, our employees are dedicated to utilizing technology, improving processes, and making adjustments to maintain the lowest rates possible. Over the past 30 years, the only rate increase customers have seen was during the building boom years of 2006 – 2008. At that time, system expansions were needed in every part of the service territory to meet growing capacity needs. Since then, even with rising costs of materials, labor and equipment, LCEC has been able to hold electric rates steady and even reduced rates in 2014 and 2015. We're proud of the fact that our rates are among the lowest in Florida!

Thanks!

Dear LCEC,
On behalf of the City of Cape Coral's Parks and Rec Department, I would like to thank you for the generous donations your business provided to the 24th Annual Tour de Cape. Without local businesses like yours, the City would not be able to host the plethora of events that it does.

Sincerely,
Special Events Division
City of Cape Coral

Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife thanks you for your generous support to help protect our Cape Coral wildlife.

To the people of LCEC:
I am compelled to congratulate employees who contributed in the efforts that led to exceeding the reliability target and at the same time lowering our electric rates. Well done; keep up the good work!

On behalf of the Foundation for Lee County Public Schools, Inc., we wish to thank LCEC for its support to enrich and enhance the quality of public education for students and educators.

The waters of Southwest Florida are beautiful year-round. Ensuring a bon voyage is important when near the power lines. Following are a few tips to keep you safe on the water!

Know where overhead lines are located before you get in your boat. Check navigational maps and keep your mast or aerial equipment far from lines.

Don't assume that just because you have sailed under lines before, you can do it again. Water levels and drafting change frequently, so don't misjudge.

Boating safety near power lines

What is a franchise agreement?



LCEC has franchise agreements with Everglades City, the City of Sanibel, the City of Marco Island, the City of Cape Coral and Lee County. A franchise agreement grants a utility the right to use rights-of-way for facilities such as poles and wires. Franchise agreements do not establish service territories, they don't set prices or guide policy, and they are not required for delivery of electric service.

Government can impose a franchise fee as part of the agreement, and the utility collects the fee from customers and remits funds to the city or county. This is not a fee paid to the utility. LCEC does not retain any portion of the collected funds but merely collects the fee on behalf of the city or county. Franchise fees differ depending on the individual agreement, but are usually set as a small percentage of a customer's electric bill.



Save money while washing your dishes

Are you still rinsing dishes before you put them in the dishwasher? If so, you're wasting time and hot water. Here are three simple steps to incorporate in your daily routine:

- 1) Scrape leftover food from plates and bowls instead of rinsing. With this simple step you could save up to 20 gallons of heated water a day.
- 2) Run the dishwasher only when it's full. This change will save both water and energy!
- 3) Try the energy-saving cycle on your dishwasher! Your dishes will air-dry, and you'll save electricity (and money) with every load.

FYI: If your dishwasher has a "booster" water heater, use it; this will heat the water to 140 degrees while maintaining an energy-saving 120 degrees on your primary water heater.

KILLA-WATTS PLAY AT CARDBOARD BOAT REGATTA



On April 17 & 18, LCEC will partner with the Rotary Club of Cape Coral to bring a unique family event to Four Freedoms Park. The LCEC band, Killa-Watts will be on the stage on race day too! For more info, visit www.capecoralregatta.com.

BORN TO SHINE

LCEC employees, friends and family participated in the largest night parade in the Southeast to honor Thomas Alva Edison. The familiar giant light bulb and the LCEC truck have become a favorite at the event, which boasts more than 200,000 spectators.



Honoring a leader



Former Trustee Frank Garrett was honored at the February Board meeting. Mr. Garrett represented Everglades City, Immokalee and Ave Maria from 1998 until he passed away in 2014. He was passionate about LCEC and its members and will be remembered fondly. His wife, Georgia, is pictured here with CEO Dennie Hamilton.



The Electric Toasters celebrate 90 years

Toastmasters International reached a 90-year milestone last month. The Electric Toasters celebrated and reminisced about their establishment in 1984. The Electric Toasters meet the second and fourth Wednesday of month at LCEC headquarters. Visit www.5701.toastmastersclubs.org for more info.

LCEC is a nonprofit corporation. Established in 1940, LCEC delivers power to more than 204,800 customers. LCEC News is published monthly for customers by the Public Relations Department, P.O. Box 3455, N. Ft. Myers, FL 33918-3455 (800) 599-2356 or 239-656-2300 • www.lcec.net

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CUSTOMER SURVEY WINNER

If you receive an LCEC customer survey in the mail, return it for a chance to win \$50. March's winner was Carrie Cohens of Immokalee.