



During storms, your power may be out—but so are LCEC crews.

For more than 75 years, LCEC crews have been restoring power quickly when Southwest Florida storms hit. An automated mapping and facility-management system provides line crews with instant information through laptop computers installed in their vehicles. This is just one LCEC tool that improves reliability and restoration time.

LCEC's line crews are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to brave severe weather, life-threatening situations, and unique environmental challenges to ensure the lights stay on. They use the proper safety equipment and emphasize safe work practices. It is important for customers to be aware of the following safety measures also:

Do not touch downed power lines.

- Do not step in water near a downed power line.
- Do not touch a person who has come in contact with an energized power line. Call 911.



DO YOUR LIGHTS BLINK?

Momentary power interruptions can be inconvenient, but they are a valuable indication that the electric system is working properly and preventing an even longer or more serious power outage.

Momentary outages can be the result of vehicle accidents, high winds, tree branches, wildlife, and even human contact with power lines. Anytime the LCEC automated equipment detects a potentially dangerous condition, it will temporarily break the flow of electricity, protecting essential parts of the electric system and possibly preventing injury.

To avoid resetting your television, clock radio, or computer, invest in an uninterruptable power supply (UPS). You can find a battery backup system for as low as \$40 online or at local retailers.

7 years
without a rate
increase!

In fact, your rates
have decreased **4**
times in the
past **2** years!!

Do you have a plan if you need to evacuate during an emergency? Staying with family or friends is always the first option, but if a Special Needs Shelter is your best option, register early!



Lee County – www.LeeEOC.com

Collier County – www.colliergov.net

Charlotte County – www.charlottecountyfl.com

Hendry County – Contact Emergency Management for an application

Sanibel/Captiva – www.mysanibel.com

DO WE HAVE YOUR NUMBER?

If an outage occurs and you call us, the automated LCEC system can identify the location of your outage if your phone number is accurately recorded with your account.

DO WE HAVE YOUR ADDRESS?

Even after you close your LCEC account, it is important to notify us with your address. You may receive annual equity returns and a final retirement after your account has been inactive for seven years. Make it easy for us to send your check!

You can update your account by calling 239-656-2300.

Take a dip TO SAFETY

The Consumer Product Safety Commission reports that since 1990, there have been 60 electrocutions and nearly 50 serious electrical shocks involving electrical hazards in and around swimming pools.



Pool and Spa SAFETY TIPS

- All outdoor receptacles should be covered to keep them dry.
- Use a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) for electrical devices used outside. Portable GFCIs require no tools to install and are available at prices ranging from \$12 to \$30.
- Make sure all electrical equipment used for swimming pools (even the cleaning equipment) is grounded.
- Electrical devices and cords should be kept at least 10 feet away from water sources.
- Never handle electrical devices when you are wet—either from water activities or from perspiration.
- Make sure there are no power lines over a swimming pool.



Energy Saver 101: Everything You Need to Know About

Home Cooling

6%

The percentage of the average household's energy use that goes to space cooling.



2/3 of all U.S. homes have air conditioners.

\$11B

The amount it costs homeowners every year to power their air conditioners.

#DidYouKnow:



You can reduce air conditioning energy use by 20-50 percent by switching to **high-efficiency air conditioners** and taking other actions to lower your home cooling costs.

ENERGY-SAVING TIP:

The quickest way to save energy on home cooling is to regularly clean and replace your cooling unit's filters.

ENERGY.GOV

Don't let your savings go out the window

In Southwest Florida, 30 percent of summer cooling costs are attributed to glass and windows.

Tips from LCEC energy experts

- Block solar heat before it reaches the windows or by using special heat-reflecting glass or window tint.
- Reflective glass or reflective glass coatings should be rated to reflect at least 65 percent of all solar heat.
- Internal window coverings trap solar heat. Heated air flows up to the ceiling, resulting in the air conditioner cycling on.
- Awnings, storm shutters, shade trees, and porch or lanai roofs are all very effective in blocking solar heat. To be 100-percent effective, the exterior shading device must never allow direct sunlight to touch the window's surface.
- East or west windows are the main source of intrusive heat. Use shading devices and tinting since they experience many hours of direct sunlight.
- South-facing windows experience a great deal of direct sunlight in the winter months. In the summer, south-facing windows are largely shaded by the overhanging soffit of the roof.

20th Annual LCEC United Way Fishing Tournament

In its 20 years of existence, the LCEC United Way Fishing Tournament has raised a jaw-dropping \$400,000+ for the United Way! Of this impressive amount, nearly \$50,000 was raised at this year's milestone tournament held in Pine Island. Below is a tournament breakdown by the numbers:

215 Anglers • 200+ Raffle prizes • 90 Fish weighed in
70 Boats • 45 Boats weighing in fish

The Grand Slam Winner of this year's tournament was Team Jamie & Gigi, who weighed in at 19.94 pounds. In addition to the support of awesome anglers, the tournament could not be the success it is without a dedicated planning committee, extremely supportive sponsors, community partners, volunteers, and those who come out to enjoy the weigh-in!



Check out www.uw.lcec.net/fish.html for photos, sponsor info, and other tournament 411.

LCEC is a nonprofit corporation. Established in 1940, LCEC delivers power to more than 210,000 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



www.facebook.com/LCEC1

CUSTOMER SURVEY WINNER
If you receive an LCEC customer survey in the mail, return it for a chance to win \$50. Last month's winner was Carl Seibel of North Ft Myers.