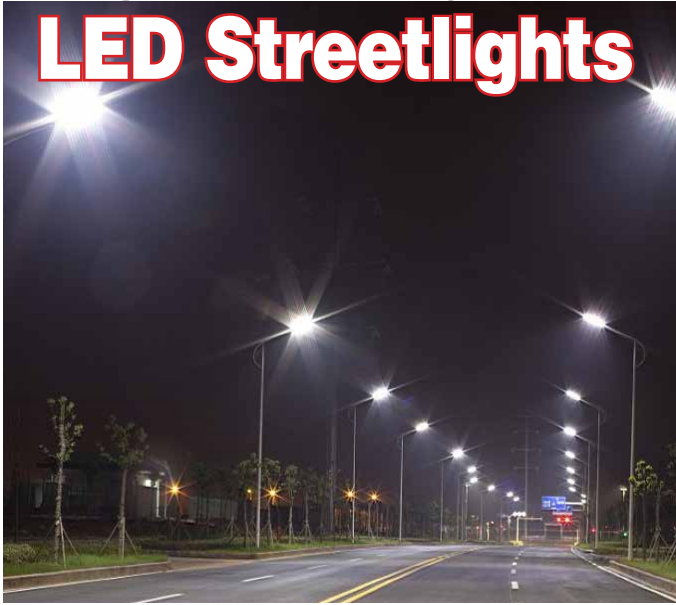




ILLUMINATING WITH LED Streetlights



To report a streetlight outage, visit www.lcec.net or call 239-656-2300.

LCEC began planning its light-emitting diode (LED) street lighting conversion project several years ago. Dialogues with several manufacturers took place early in the process. Products were evaluated, and analysis helped to determine:

- Compliance with the required LCEC specifications
- Visual product quality
- Apparent ease of installation and maintenance
- Experience, integrity, and solvency of the manufacturer
- Reasonable pricing options

After thorough exploration and testing during a pilot program, LCEC rolled out an LED streetlight program earlier this year.

There are several benefits to LED lighting:

- LEDs provide more clear and consistent light quality that can improve safety
- Anticipated fewer outages. LED lights have a life expectancy up to five times longer than traditional High Pressure Sodium (HPS) lights
- A truer white light quality, which leads to better color rendering, allowing colors to seem more natural

LCEC determined that a phased approach is the most efficient way to implement the program. When a 100-watt HPS fixture fails, it will be replaced with an LED fixture. All requests for new 100-watt lights will also be filled with an LED light.

SEVEN COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES



Understanding your bill

We strive to keep customers informed so that when the bill arrives there are no surprises. Visit www.lcec.net for energy management tools and more information about billing practices.

- Your monthly bill is determined by your kilowatt-hour usage. Usage is measured by the electric meter.
- Customers are not billed until AFTER electricity is used.
- Customers have approximately three weeks to pay the bill. Late payments are subject to a fee.
- If not paid by the due date, reminders are issued.
- When due dates are missed or payments are received late, a security deposit based on the average cost of two months of service may be assessed.
- Some customers are also charged a franchise fee or public service tax that is collected and turned over to their local government agency.

Every bit helps!



LCEC recently retired \$26,162 in equity to Cape Coral Hospital. Energy Management Coordinator Jim Best and Lee Memorial Systems Director Rod Allen were happy when Key Account Executive Trish Lassiter delivered their check. LCEC has returned more than \$243 million in retired equity over the years!

Lose the lint to avoid **A FIRE**

Each year, an estimated 15,000 fires involving washers and dryers happen in homes throughout the United States. Clothes dryers account for over 90% of these fires, and the leading cause of these fires is failure to clean the unit (specifically, failure to clean the lint filter). Consider the following tips as a way to protect you, your loved ones, and your home.

- Have a professional install and service your dryer.
- Read the manufacturer's operating instructions for safety information.
- Never use a dryer without a lint filter.
- Always clean the lint filter, and any lint that collects around the drum, before and after drying clothes.
- Keep a watchful eye on the vent pipe to ensure that it is not obstructed and is opening during operation of the unit.
- Consider having a professional lint removal service clean your unit at least once a year.
- Never overload your dryer or leave it running when you leave your house or sleep.

Here are just a few of the many signs that let you know it is time to clean your vent... although it should be a regular practice:

- Your clothes aren't drying in a normal cycle of 35-40 minutes.
- There is a musty odor coming from your dryer.
- Clothes are extra hot to the touch after they are dry. Your laundry room is excessively hot when the dryer is on.

For more tips on electrical safety, visit 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 Joseph King of Lehigh Acres.

GET THE FACTS

FLIP HERE



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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




Electric utility linemen run towards the storm. They fight the wind and rain. You may not know it, but they often work for hours on end, late at night, or in the early morning hours. They do it because they know that thousands of people depend upon them.

Linemen are a skilled bunch, requiring more than just field training. It takes technical knowledge, safety awareness, and book smarts too! They do a job that not many are brave enough to do and tackle things others wouldn't dare.

They are linemen and we thank them. We are proud that many of our customers also take the time to thank our linemen and other employees for the work that they do!

Saving time and energy with your microwave



The energy efficiency of different brands of microwave ovens varies, so look for the ENERGYGUIDE labels. Also consider other energy-efficient ways to cook such as Crock-Pots, toaster ovens, and electric frying pans.

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ooking with your microwave helps to reduce cooling costs in your home because you are avoiding the heat generated from a conventional oven. Microwave ovens also use between 30 and 80 percent less energy than conventional ovens. The high-frequency radio waves that penetrate the surface of food to heat water molecules inside the food can greatly reduce cooking times and energy consumption. Microwave ovens are especially efficient for smaller portions or for defrosting.

LCEC's Electric Toasters Named SWFL's Toastmaster Club of the Year



The LCEC Electric Toasters Club #5701 has been named the "Southwest Florida's Club of the Year" for 2015/2016. The Club has been in existence for over 26 years and currently has 27 active members, five of which are Distinguished Toastmasters (DTM), the highest award bestowed by Toastmasters International. The Electric Toasters have also been a member of the "Distinguished President's Club" for an amazing nine years!

The Electric Toasters meet every second and fourth Wednesday at 12 p.m. at the LCEC headquarters in North Fort Myers. The Club is open to all those interested in membership. Toastmasters International is a worldwide, nonprofit, educational organization that empowers individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders. The organization's international membership exceeds 332,000 in more than 15,400 clubs in 135 countries. Since 1924, Toastmasters International has helped people from diverse backgrounds become more confident speakers, communicators, and leaders.