

Holiday happenings

LCEC employees pitched in to make the season bright at the Edison & Ford Winter Estates and for the Goodwill Festival of Trees. In the southern part of the service territory, another crew showed up to support the Farm City BBQ at the Seminole Casino.



Mailbag

The new system was a change, but now that I have been surfing around on it, I appreciate how easy it is! Thank you for making the improvement.
~Stanley, North Fort Myers

Thank you very much for calling to assist me in setting up an account in your new system. The rep was very knowledgeable, patient, helpful, and had a good sense of humor.
Best regards. - Earl, Lehigh Acres

Just wanted to let you know that I've been exploring your new Website and I just love it! Very user-friendly and easy to navigate. Thank you!
~Mary, Cape Coral

LCEC NEWS



LCEC
PEOPLE. POWER. POSSIBILITIES.

JANUARY 2019

BALLOT

Coming to your mailbox in March –



Trustee Election Ballot

As an electric cooperative member, you have the right to elect your Board of Trustees members each year. It is just one of the benefits that sets a cooperative apart from investor-owned or government-run municipal utilities. Board members are customers. The Trustee positions in Immokalee/Ave Maria and Cape Coral are up for election this year. Seat elections are staggered to allow for continuity on the Board.

The Nominating Committee, comprised of LCEC customers from throughout the service territory, will be interviewing candidates in January. Committee members will recommend candidates who they feel have the ability to represent the total membership on an impartial and equitable basis. In addition, they look for characteristics related to financial oversight and compliance, risk management, business ethics, problem solving, independent thinking, cohesiveness, integrity, awareness of local issues, and ability to study data and information related to the utility industry. Vote the green way! When you cast your vote online or by phone instead of mailing your ballot, you help to keep rates low.



Cooperatives are part of everyday life!

If you are reading this, you are probably part of an electric cooperative. You may be involved in other cooperatives too. If you bank at a credit union, it is a cooperative. Some of the brand names in your grocery store are part of a cooperative. Cooperatives take advantage of opportunities to save money and return profits to members or reinvest in the business. At the same time, cooperatives like LCEC are focused on creating jobs, supporting other businesses, community, and enhancing quality of life.

Coexisting with nature

LCEC works year-round to balance the needs of maintaining the electric system with the responsibility of sustaining the beautiful environment of Southwest Florida and the wildlife that inhabits it. A systematic vegetation management plan is aimed at keeping electric facilities as reliable as possible by targeting trouble spots while also maintaining a tree-trimming cycle that addresses the most critical infrastructure.



The 16th Annual SWFL Burrowing Owl Festival is on February 23, 2019, at Rotary Park. Visit www.ccfriendsowwildlife.org for details.

LCEC crews are also careful not to disturb wildlife in its natural habitat when possible and work around nesting seasons and comply with wildlife regulations. Additional efforts are focused on supporting local organizations that educate and work toward preserving our precious natural resources.

CUSTOMER SURVEY WINNERS

If you receive an LCEC customer survey, return it for a chance to win \$100. Last month's winners were Patsy Philbrick of Cape Coral and Carol Gussom of Cape Coral.



www.facebook.com/LCECSWFL

LCEC is a nonprofit corporation. Established in 1940, LCEC delivers power to more than 217,750 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

New Year... New Opportunities to Save

Happy 2019! Odds are that your first resolution isn't to save electricity. However, saving energy is so simple that it won't affect your newfound commitment to the gym.

Following are ways to resolve to be more energy efficient this year:

- ▶ Install a programmable thermostat to help save up to 10 percent on the energy bill per year. Set your thermostat to adjust for when no one is home. Save money without sacrificing comfort.
- ▶ Plug electronics into a power strip to easily turn off and on to reduce "phantom" loads when you leave your home for extended periods of time. Electronics and appliances use energy even when they are off if they are plugged into receptacles. Save up to \$100 a year.
- ▶ Install low-flow showerheads and reduce the temperature of your water heater to 120 degrees. Water heating accounts for 14-18 percent of the electric bill.



LCEC wishes you a wonderful and energy-efficient New Year!
Visit lcec.net for more ways to save.



Do we have your phone number?

If an outage occurs and you call the automated LCEC system, the location can be identified using your phone number. There is also an option for reporting the outage from a different number.

Avoid the need to speak to a representative by updating your contact information in SmartHub.

You can update your account

Do we have your address?

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

Register as a new user! SmartHub

You may have been an LCEC customer for many years, but if you haven't registered in SmartHub, you are a new user. Take a minute to register and you will gain access to many features to help manage your electric usage.

It's as easy as 1-2-3!

1. From www.lcec.net. Click the NEW USER link on the home page.
2. Enter your account number, name, and email address.
3. Enter your security info, the characters in the security photo, and submit!

KEEPING TOASTY WITHOUT USING THE HEAT

Baby, it's cold outside! When the temperature drops in SWFL, it is tempting to switch on the heat. However, it is important to remember that heat is the most intense use of electric energy in the average home. In fact, heat can cost two to three times more than cooling! In addition to safely using heating blankets or small portable space heaters to heat only the rooms that you are occupying, there are many ways to stay warm without clicking on the heat.

LAYER UP

Wear many thin layers to insulate your body.

DON'T RUN THE BATHROOM FAN

After showering, open the door to let the humidity fill the house as much as possible.

CUDDLE!

Body heat does wonders on a cold winter's night. For even more warmth, cuddle in flannel sheets and a down comforter.



WEAR A HAT

Hats that are close-fitting work best to retain body heat.

REVERSE YOUR CEILING FANS

Reverse your ceiling fans (to a clockwise direction) and keep them at a low speed to help push warm air down to the ground.

STAY ACTIVE

Vacuum, tackle a home project, or walk on the treadmill to stay warm during the winter. Just remember to change clothes once finished to avoid wearing damp clothes.

If you must use the heat, LCEC recommends setting the thermostat between 65 and 68 degrees Fahrenheit when home.