



LCEC provides seven local organizations with Environmental Funding Awards

LCEC was proud to provide Environmental Funding Awards to Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife, Audubon's Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, Future Forestry Corporation, Bailey-Matthews National Shell Museum, J.N. Ding Darling, ArtFest Fort Myers, Inc., and the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife. Collectively, these seven organizations were awarded nearly \$22,000! LCEC's Environmental Funding Awards are given out twice a year with deadlines happening in March and September. An application can be downloaded at <https://www.lcec.net/about-lcec/community-and-education/environment>. These funding awards are just one of the many ways that LCEC positively impacts and supports wildlife and the environment.



CUSTOMER SURVEY WINNERS

If you receive an LCEC customer survey, return it for a chance to win \$100. Last month's winners were Thomas Miller of Lehigh Acres, Thomas Fiordaliso of Cape Coral, and Martha L Barrios of Lehigh Acres.



RISE

to the challenge -
give to United Way!

There are many reasons and multiple ways to give to United Way. This year the Lee, Hendry, Glades, Okeechobee United Way campaign will be different due to COVID-19. Some fundraising events have been canceled, scaled down, or adjusted as a result of the current situation. But the need in our community has only increased due to the challenges we have faced in 2020. You can make a difference in the lives of children, the elderly, the disabled, veterans, and those impacted most. Give them a hand UP by contributing to this year's campaign goal of \$10.8 million. 100 percent of your donation will remain in the SWFL community. Visit <https://www.unitedwaylee.org/donate/>, and rise to the challenge!

LCEC is a nonprofit corporation. Established in 1940, LCEC delivers power to more than 225,269 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

Be sure to check us out on social media! Receive safety, conservation, and LCEC info on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn!



ROLE OF BOARD OF TRUSTEE NOMINATING COMMITTEE IN ELECTION PROCESS

The 10-person LCEC Trustee Election Nominating Committee is independent from the Board of Trustees. This committee consists of LCEC members charged with interviewing and objectively evaluating members applying for Trustee seats. Committee members are tasked with exercising due diligence and meticulous care to ensure the nomination process is carried out thoroughly, efficiently, and with the utmost integrity. The Committee strives to conduct a fair and open process, to be conscientious of its responsibilities, and to apply standards widely applicable to large corporations.

LCEC NEWS

Same electric rates, MORE RELIABLE POWER

For more than 12 years, LCEC has held electric rates steady for customers. At the same time, reliability has improved over the years. Employee and Trustee efforts are a true example of "doing more with less." As costs of materials, services, and labor have increased, the use of technology and process improvement methodology have paved the way for cost savings and more efficient work practices.

Now accepting Trustee Election applications



Any LCEC customer/member who is a resident of Cape Coral; Sanibel, Captiva, and Pine Island; and Marco Island, Goodland, and Everglades City can apply for a Board of Trustee seat for the 2021 Trustee Election.

All applicants are considered and interviewed by the Nominating Committee. Each year there are three seats up for election. Terms are staggered to provide continuity on the Board. Potential qualifications for nominated candidates:

- Business experience
- Ability to interpret operating and financial reports
- Community leadership
- Sensitivity to member concerns, attitudes, and issues
- Integrity and minimal possibility for conflict of interest
- Availability to attend monthly Board meetings and committee meetings
- Capability to contribute to Board discussions and decisions

2021 seats

- District 1—Marco Island, Goodland, and Everglades City
- District 2, Seat 2—Cape Coral
- District 3—Sanibel, Captiva, and Pine Island

If you would like to be considered for a position on the Board of Trustees, contact LCEC Public Relations at pr@lcec.net. Applications accepted through January 4, 2021.

PAYMENT OPTIONS



PAY NOW

No registration required. Simply use your billing account number and your last name or business name to make a checking or savings account payment quickly and easily.



SMARTHUB

Pay online when you register and log-in to SmartHub. Monitor your daily usage plus many more features.



AUTOPAY

A convenient, time-saving option that will automatically deduct your payment from your bank account on the due date of the bill.



PAY STATIONS

Convenient Authorized Payment Stations are located throughout our service territory.



PAY BY PHONE

A convenient way to pay your bill over the phone: 239-656-2300 or 800-599-2356.

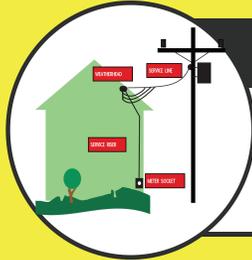


MAIL

Send your payment in the envelope enclosed with your bill. LCEC Payment Address: P.O. Box 31477 Tampa, FL 33631-3477

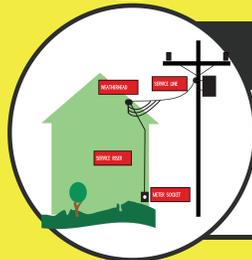
Together we make it happen

The electric grid is very complex, from the power plant to the outlet that powers your electronics. Continual maintenance is required to sustain reliable power so that you have it when you need it. The LCEC experts are committed to making sure that everything on our end is operational, and there are a few pieces of equipment that require customers to work with a licensed electrician to maintain.



WE MAINTAIN THIS

- Connection point to your home or business
- Service wire (overhead and underground)
- Equipment on utility poles
- Distribution lines
- Transmission lines
- Substations
- Meter



YOU MAINTAIN THIS

- Weatherhead
- Service riser
- Meter socket
- Electric system inside your home or business

There are many factors that may cause a high electric bill



Look for charges other than usage like past-due amounts or deposits.



The number of days in a billing period will impact the bill amount.



Compare the average daily usage to the previous month or year.



Check the daily usage to determine when the increase occurred.

As a member, you are part of economic development

The goal of a cooperative is to serve customers rather than to gain maximum profits from them. Cooperatives, like LCEC, share the goal of treating suppliers, employees, and members fairly. The cooperative economy has dwelled alongside the corporate economy for close to two centuries.

In the U.S., more than 130 million people are members of a cooperative or credit union. More Americans hold memberships than hold shares

in the stock market. Worldwide, cooperatives have close to a billion members. Among the 300 largest cooperative and mutually owned companies worldwide, total revenues approach \$2 trillion. If these enterprises were a single nation, its economy would be the ninth largest on earth.

As members, not only do you earn equity with every payment that you make for the electricity you receive, but you also contribute

to the economy. Just over 70 percent of your contribution goes toward power costs. The other 30 percent supports taxes, financial institutions, business partnerships, supply chains, employee support of local real estate, retail, education, human services, health and wellness initiatives, and environmental agencies. As a member, you are part of something even bigger than electricity. You are part of building a sustainable community. Thank you!

Top 10 Holiday Safety Tips

- Inspect electrical decorations for damage before use.** Cracked or damaged sockets, loose or bare wires, and loose connections may cause a serious shock or a fire. 
- Do not overload electrical outlets.** Avoid overloading outlets, and plug only one high-wattage appliance into each outlet at a time. 
- Never connect more than three strings of incandescent lights.** More than three strands may not only blow a fuse, but cause a fire. 
- Keep tree fresh by watering daily.** Dry trees are a serious fire hazard. 
- Use battery-operated candles.** Candles start almost half of home decoration fires (NFPA). 
- Keep combustibles at least three feet from heat sources.** A heat source that was too close to the decoration was a factor in half of home fires that began with decorations (NFPA). 
- Protect cords from damage.** To avoid shock or fire hazards, cords should never be pinched by furniture, forced into small spaces, placed under rugs, located near heat sources, or attached by nails or staples. 
- Check decorations for certification label.** Decorations not bearing a label from Underwriters Laboratories (UL) have not been tested for safety and could be hazardous. 
- Stay in the kitchen when something is cooking.** Unattended cooking equipment is the leading cause of home cooking fires (NFPA). 
- Turn off, unplug, and extinguish all decorations when going to sleep or leaving the house.** Unattended candles are the cause of one in five home candle fires. Half of home fire deaths occur between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. (NFPA). 

Stay safe through the holidays!

Customers said...

Mr. B. said, "We had a power outage affecting 600 homes around 10:30 p.m. I want to thank LCEC for a great job getting service up and running within the hour. Great job!"

Mr. H. was pleased to say, "the service my neighbors and I receive is fabulous. The electric upgrades in our community make a difference, and if we lose power, it is always immediately restored."

Ms. R. posted on social media "I reported an outage via phone, and at 2:30 a.m. we could hear crews working. We didn't expect it and were VERY grateful when the power came back on less than an hour later. We thank the crew working in the middle of the night!!"