

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH

National Cooperative Month is celebrated nationwide each October to raise awareness of the benefits, values, and charitable outreach that membership provides.

LCEC is one of more than 850 not-for-profit electric distribution cooperatives located throughout 46 states. Our values are deep-rooted in the community. Our workforce pays local taxes and supports community services and causes.

Cooperatives are run by and for its members who invest in the operation of the utility through electric rates. Profits, or margins, are allocated to members.

For 81 years, LCEC has been focused on delivering reliable electricity and quality service at a reasonable rate. It's the cooperative way.

LCEC is a nonprofit corporation. Established in 1940, LCEC delivers power to more than 230,940 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



LCEC Auto Pay to save the day

There are many easy and convenient ways to pay your LCEC electric bill. One of the easiest is Auto Pay. This time-saving option will automatically deduct your electric payment right from your bank account on the due date of the bill. This option is open to residential and commercial customers. All funds must be drawn from U.S. banks only. Sign up today through the SmartHub mobile app or on lcec.net.



CHECK OUT ALL UNITED WAY EVENT INFO AT
<https://uw.lcec.net/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Golf Tournament
October 23



Subscribe to the LCEC YouTube Channel!

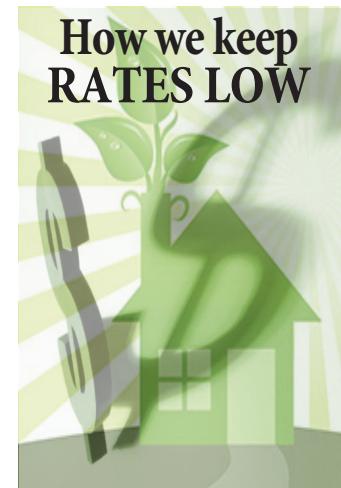
Visit www.youtube.com/c/LeeCountyElectricCooperativeLCECSwfl/featured and check out LCEC news, safety tips, shared content, and more! Check out the other LCEC social media channels too!



Board of Trustees

ARE
CUSTOMER MEMBERS!

LCEC is governed by a 10-member Board of Trustees elected by all members. Trustees are not LCEC employees. They attend monthly Board meetings and various committee meetings and must stay abreast of utility industry trends and news. The Board is responsible for establishing policies and ensuring LCEC operates within the core values and the principles on which it was founded. Trustees maintain strategic direction and represent the best interest of all members. Applications for the Cape Coral, Seats 1 and 2, Lehigh Acres, and Immokalee/Ave Maria seats will be available in November. All account holders residing in those districts are eligible to apply.



How we keep RATES LOW

LCEC has not had a rate increase for 13 years!

Electric rates are based on many cost variables:

- materials and labor
- purchased power
- weather
- taxes
- fees
- costs

LCEC has managed operating and maintenance costs and has been able to offset increases in other areas through process improvement and efficiency.

Our mission is to provide reliable electricity and quality service at the lowest possible rate.

Your safety is our priority



When it comes to tree care, one wrong move can result in serious injury or fatality. Never attempt to prune vegetation or remove branches that are touching power lines. Touching or contacting a power line with body parts, tools, or trimmings may cause a powerful electric shock. Only qualified line clearance arborists may work within 10 feet of energized lines.

Always contact LCEC before performing or contracting tree work near our electric lines. When trees are within 10 feet of primary lines, LCEC can schedule safe clearing in advance of tree care.





by Rounding Up!
An LCEC Community Partnership

You have the power to change lives with the LCEC Power to Share Program



Help someone in need by donating to the LCEC Power to Share Program, created to assist financially strained customers with electric bill payments. It is a joint partnership between LCEC and the United Way. LCEC customers and employees contribute to the program, and United Way 211 administers funds to eligible recipients.

There are several ways to donate:

- Enroll in the new Rounding Up Program.
- Other ways to donate include: visiting the Power to Share page on lcec.net and complete the contribution form or by visiting www.unitedwaylee.org, click on "Donate Now," and enter LCEC Power to Share.

The Power to Share by Rounding Up provides the opportunity to round up monthly electric bills to the nearest dollar. For example, a bill of \$150.25 would be rounded up to \$151.00. The additional \$0.75 is allocated to the Power to Share Program. Customers can also add a one-time donation to their bill.

Enroll in the program through SmartHub, lcec.net, or by calling 239-656-2300. Opt-out anytime, if desired.

HALLOWEEN DECOR SAFETY TIPS

If you are planning on haunting-out your house this Halloween, keep safety in mind to avoid any spooky happenings.

USE YOUR SKULL:

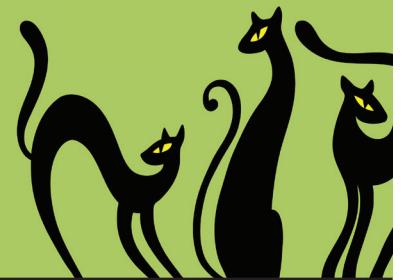
Don't overload outdoor outlets, and keep light strands out of the way of trick-or-treaters.

USE YOUR EYEBALLS TO CHECK YOUR DÉCOR:

Look for bare or frayed wires, damaged sockets, or wobbly connections that could cause electric shock or start a fire!

PUT YOUR SPOOKY DÉCOR TO SLEEP:

As with any electrical appliance or device, it is important to only have it powered when you can observe it. The last thing you want is for your ghostly décor to become a ghastly disaster!



LCEC wishes you a safe and happy Halloween!!

GOBBLE UP TURKEY DAY SAVINGS

Prepare early, worry less with these Thanksgiving Energy Tips!

Use the microwave as much as possible.

They draw less than half the power of a regular oven and cook for a much shorter period of time.

Avoid opening the oven door to check on food.

Each time the door is opened, a considerable portion of the oven's heat escapes.

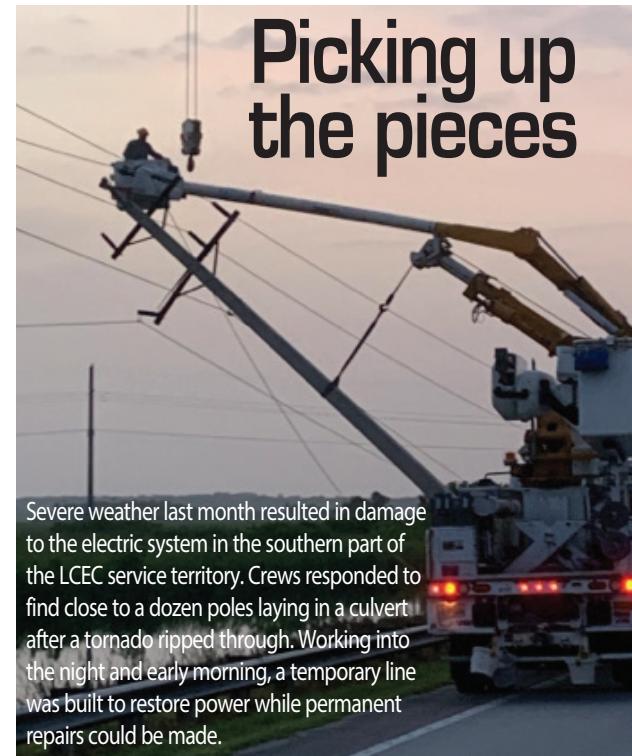
Use a "lids-on" approach.

Tightly fitted lids on pots and pans help keep heat in, enabling you to lower the temperature settings and shorten the cooking times.

Test seal of your refrigerator door with a dollar bill!

If you can slip the bill out easily, or worse, it falls out on its own, the door needs to be adjusted or the gasket replaced.

Picking up the pieces



Severe weather last month resulted in damage to the electric system in the southern part of the LCEC service territory. Crews responded to find close to a dozen poles laying in a culvert after a tornado ripped through. Working into the night and early morning, a temporary line was built to restore power while permanent repairs could be made.

Blinking lights



Blinking lights in your home or business can sometimes be annoying, but a momentary blink can be the result of a protective device on the electric system helping to avoid lengthy outages.

These devices prevent severe damage to the electric system. Brief power interruptions occur when there is a fault on the line due to a tree branch, bird, or animal touching the power lines, or lightning.

Lights flickering in just one part of your home or business could mean a bad light bulb or a loose wire in a circuit, your electric panel, or your meter base.

To avoid resetting any technology, invest in an uninterruptable power source (UPS). You can find a battery backup system for as low as \$40 online or at local retailers.

Set usage alerts with SmartHub

More than half of LCEC customers are enrolled in SmartHub. This safe and secure bill pay and customer service tool offers a multitude of ways to save time and money while conserving electricity. One of SmartHub's many features is the ability to set up usage alerts. Take control and monitor usage. It puts customers in the driver's seat! SmartHub allows customers to:



- View payment history
- Pay bills
- Request a payment extension
- Receive bill reminders
- Report an outage

Enrolling in SmartHub is simple! Visit LCEC.net or download the free SmartHub app. Be sure to have your account information on hand when you register as a new user.

Customer Survey Winners

If you receive an LCEC customer survey, return it for a chance to win \$100.

Last month's winners were Michael Andrade of Cape Coral, Frances Bouchard of North Fort Myers, and Priscilla Burgos of North Fort Myers

