

LCEC sponsors Garden Club of Cape Coral as they promote safe tree planting and care

LCEC is proud to partner with the Garden Club of Cape Coral for a landscaping awareness project for Habitat for Humanity homeowners. The Garden Club will work with Master Gardener volunteers to create Florida-Friendly landscaping in the hopes of being an example to others in the community.

"Our decision to sponsor this initiative reinforces the idea of Right Plant, Right Place," said Public Relations Director Karen Ryan. "We are passionate about increasing awareness about tree care safety around power lines."

- LCEC reminds all residents that:**
- Touching or contacting power lines with tools may cause a powerful or fatal electric shock.
 - When pruning trees, all tools and trimmings must remain a minimum of 10 feet away from energized lines.
 - Only qualified line clearance arborists may work within 10 feet of energized lines
 - Always contact LCEC before performing or contracting tree work near electric lines. LCEC can schedule safe clearing in advance of your tree care.

Remember, contact with power lines is extremely dangerous and in some cases, fatal. Visit lcec.net to learn more.



EMPLOYEES PAY IT FORWARD

LCEC employees volunteer in the community through LCEC-sponsored events and program initiatives. Employees also lend their time and talent toward scouting, youth sports, churches, mentoring, and wellness. LCEC encourages involvement by contributing \$100 to an employee's favorite charity when they volunteer 100 hours. Employees volunteering more than 500 hours are inducted into the LCEC 500 Club and have a chance to win \$500 for their charity at the end of the volunteer season. In 2020, it wasn't as easy to volunteer. Nevertheless, there were three employees gaining 500 Club bragging rights. Nancy Miller, Nicky Sierra, and Aaron Warner found a way to socially distance while giving of their time to energize the community. We thank them for paying it forward.

Find us on social media!



Be sure to check all the LCEC social media channels for energy-saving tips, safety, industry news, community happenings, history, and so much more!!
 @LCECSWFL - Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, Pinterest
 And be sure to subscribe to our YouTube channel!!



Customer Survey WINNERS

If you receive an LCEC customer survey, return it for a chance to win \$100. Last month's winners were Leslie Benitez-Quiles of Lehigh, Paul Pulver of Cape Coral, and Mary Newcomb of North Fort Myers.

LCEC is a nonprofit corporation. Established in 1940, LCEC delivers power to more than 229,079 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

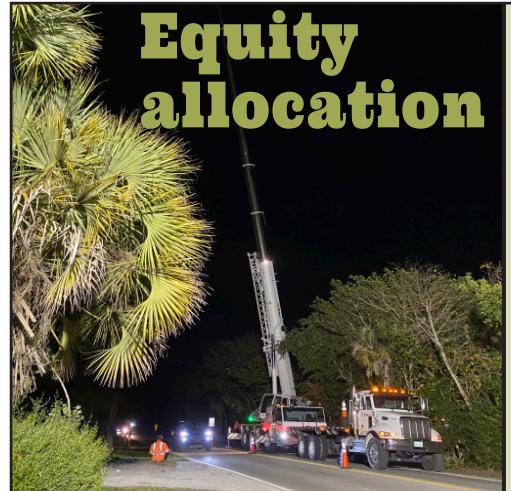
Save the DATE!

25th Annual Fishing Tournament
September 18

Golf Tournament
October 23

Goblin Gallop 5k
October 30

<https://www.lcec.net/SitePages/Home.aspx>



Like most utilities, LCEC invests a great deal in operating, maintaining, and strengthening the electric system. A percentage of your monthly electric bill payment is invested in infrastructure to improve reliability. LCEC is able to keep rates competitive by reducing the amount of money it must borrow from banks, thanks to member investment.

Funds remaining after expenses are allocated to LCEC members' equity account. Equity is not cash in the bank. It is an investment in the electric system. When possible, a portion of equity is retired. It may not always be possible to make general retirements annually based on the financial needs of the cooperative. Each year, the Board of Trustees reviews needs and margins and will consider retirement. Not all cooperatives are able to return equity.



LCEC employees are ready to jump into action if and when the time comes. We maintain our electric system and improve upon our restoration planning year-round.

Are you and your family ready if a storm approaches our region?

- STEP ONE:**
- Make an emergency plan and share with your family.
 - Know your evacuation zone.
 - Know your risk for wind, rain, and flood.
 - Put together a disaster supply kit.
 - Strengthen your home and trim vegetation. (If you cannot safely trim vegetation on your own, contact a licensed professional.)

- STEP TWO:**
- Obtain a 7-day supply of essential medications and anything for dietary restrictions.
 - Create a shelter plan for your pets.
 - Get your finances in order.
 - Have a backup source of power ready for anyone requiring life-support equipment.

- STEP THREE-**
- Document your emergency plan, and practice the plan with your household.
 - Remind everyone you know to stay away from downed power lines!!

For more information, go to lcec.net and download a copy of our Hurricane Guide.

SERVICE ORDER TOOL

Did you know that there is a *Service Order Tool* available on LCEC.net? Check the status of new service construction work anytime. The easy-to-use tool provides information about the construction process and the scheduled completion date. For more details on this convenient tool, visit www.lcec.net/my-home/electric-service/builders/service-order-status.

BE TREEWISE

LCEC values the important role trees play in our natural and landscaped environments. Yet trees are incompatible with overhead electric lines. Electrocutation is one of the leading causes of death across the tree care industry.

The best accident prevention



- Keep trees clear of power lines. This starts with choosing the right tree to plant in the right place.
- Maintain your property so that volunteer trees do not reach a height that requires pruning around power lines.
- Always consider space and growth before planting trees in your yard. While trees that are too small may not provide the amount of beauty and shade you are looking for, trees that are too large can create future problems as they conflict with your home, fences, neighbors' yards, and yes, power lines.

Tall trees 50' away

Low to medium trees 10-20' away



LCEC HAS THE FOLLOWING TIPS FOR SAFE GENERATOR USE:

- Operate outdoors with plenty of ventilation. Generators give off deadly carbon monoxide.
- Do not plug a generator into the wall to avoid back feed.
- Turn the generator on before plugging in appliances.
- Generators are for temporary use.
- Turn off the generator and cool before fueling.

GENERATOR SAFETY



Portable or permanently installed standby generators come in handy during long-term power outages. If not used properly, they can be dangerous. Follow the manufacturer's instructions.

A permanent generator must have a transfer switch that prevents energy from back feeding onto the electric grid and becoming dangerous to a lineman or others.

Summer outage info at your fingertips!



LCEC provides an outage management map that can be accessed at <https://www.lcec.net/reliability/storm-center/outage-map> or through the SmartHub app. Visit the site and view areas that are experiencing outages by zip code, region, or county, and see the number of customers impacted and if a crew has been assigned. You can also report an outage

through SmartHub and receive a one-time call back when power is restored.

To register as a new SmartHub user, visit www.lcec.net

You can also download the mobile app from the Apple Store® or in the Android® Market.

How Do Hurricanes Get Their Names?

Hurricane names are chosen by

Names are assigned to storms in alphabetical order as the storms occur.



World Meteorological Organization

Tropical storms are given names at a wind speeds of

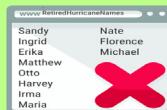
39 MPH

Hurricanes are given names at a wind speeds of

74 MPH

There are six lists of names for Atlantic and Pacific storms.

Every six years, the lists of names repeat. (not including retired names)



The names of especially destructive hurricanes are usually retired.



Considering an electric vehicle charging station at your location?

More electric vehicles are entering SWFL highways, and power is needed to keep the wheels turning. LCEC is poised to deliver power to charging stations within the service territory when and wherever they are installed. LCEC doesn't plan to expand into the charging station business. We leave that to charging station manufacturers with the latest information and comparative data about cost, usage, power needs, and service related to electric vehicles.

Once the type of equipment and location is determined by the charging station installer and a request for electric service is received, LCEC will ensure the infrastructure is in place to deliver power to keep your engines energized.

How do we keep rates low?

LCEC rates demonstrate value to our customers. LCEC works hard to manage base rates. This is the portion of the customer bill that LCEC directly controls. Wholesale power costs, franchise fees, and public service taxes are a pass-through from customers to the power supplier and local governments.

LCEC customers enjoy the lowest possible rates due to a diverse power supply mix. In 2014, LCEC began purchasing power from Florida Power and Light (FPL). The power LCEC customers receive includes power from

emerging energy technologies, including renewable energy.

The rate structure is designed to collect reasonable revenue from the customers who use the electricity. LCEC Trustees, management, and employees recognize the important role they play in setting rates accurately. After all, the electric rates have a direct impact on LCEC's ability to pay operating and financing costs, and our mission includes providing competitive rates..

Cool savings for the hot summer

Our region is warm almost year-round, and the summer months can be sweltering! Don't let the desire to beat the heat result in high energy usage. Follow these simple tricks to stay cool while saving energy:



WINDOWS

30 percent of summer cooling costs are attributed to glass and windows. Install heat-reflecting glass or window tint. At the very least, invest in heat-blocking curtains.



THERMOSTAT

Programmable thermostats can save up to 28 percent in cooling costs. Set the A/C thermostat at 83 degrees when away from home more than two hours and at 78 degrees while home. Each degree below 78 degrees adds up to eight percent to cooling costs.



FANS

Turn on that ceiling fan to cool yourself, and turn it off when you leave the room. Always turn on your bathroom fan when showering or bathing to remove excess heat and humidity.



A/C

Service the A/C annually, and change or clean filters monthly.



SUNSHINE

Use the sun to light your home, and keep the lights off.

For more ways to save in summertime and beyond, visit lcec.net.