

LCEC 500 Club

Serving others one hour at a time



Several remarkable LCEC employees surpassed the annual 500+ mark for volunteer hours!

Pictured: Nancy, Dana, Aaron, and Aaron,
Not pictured: Nicky

Volunteerism is one of the pillars that LCEC was built on. A team like this helps keep the LCEC reputation in the community strong and meaningful! Giving back time, talent, and treasure ensures that the LCEC vision of energizing the community is not just words; it is truly action.



Subscribe to the LCEC YouTube Channel!
Visit www.youtube.com/c/LeeCountyElectricCooperativeLCECswfl/featured

CUSTOMER SURVEY WINNERS

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

Last month's winners were Scott Gilbert of Marco Island, Gregory Windhurst of Cape Coral, and Cheryl Neff of Marco Island.

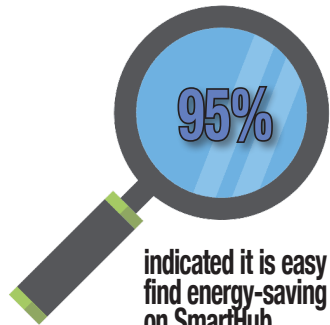


LCEC provides Environmental Funding Awards to five local organizations

LCEC is proud and honored to have provided Environmental Funding Awards to Calusa Land Trust and Preserve of Pine Island, Inc., Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, Friends of Cape Coral Environment, Inc., Friends of Fakahatchee, and the Sanibel Sea School in March. Collectively, these five award winners received nearly \$18,000. Since the inception of the LCEC Environmental Funding Award program in 2013, LCEC has awarded nearly \$205,000 to local organizations to help aid in endeavors to protect and sustain the environment.

LCEC funding is awarded twice a year with application deadlines on March 15 and September 1. To apply for an environmental funding award, organizations should visit the Environment tab at www.lcec.net or contact pr@lcec.net.

When we asked customers...



indicated it is easy to find energy-saving tools on SmartHub.



60% were "not interested" in purchasing an electric vehicle during the next five years.

LCEC is a nonprofit corporation. Established in 1940, LCEC delivers power to more than 235,099 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 NEWS

MAY 2022

Reliability and resilience are more important than ever



When it comes to delivering reliable electricity, success is measured by the ability to avoid outages and bring power back after a major weather event. LCEC continually invests in strengthening the electric system through maintenance and new facilities.

Protective devices installed throughout the grid are designed to automatically clear or isolate a problem on power lines. This reduces the number of customers impacted and prevents more serious damage to the system that would be costly and time-consuming to repair or replace. The LCEC smart technology resolves some of the most common fault

causes such as trees, lightning, and animals without dispatching line workers to the scene.

LCEC also relies on a long-term engineering plan that includes upgrading facilities to help withstand environmental impacts. Forces of nature such as severe weather and hurricanes pose a risk for widespread power outages. The tried-and-true LCEC emergency response plan begins with damage assessment, repairs to the largest outages first, and utilization of automated meter reading technology to verify that all customers have been restored as quickly and safely as possible.

LCEC Rates Remain Low - May Power Cost Adjustment

A Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) increase will be implemented beginning May 1, 2022. The increase is the result of rising purchased power costs passed on from the LCEC power supplier, Florida Power and Light (FPL).

PCA charges are determined after consideration of projected costs for purchased power. When purchased power costs decline, the PCA is decreased. Since 2014, there have been five PCA decreases. There are no margins (profit) earned on this portion of the customer bill. Power costs make up more than 70 percent of the LCEC bill.

Even with the power cost adjustment, LCEC rates remain among the lowest in the region. LCEC customers have not seen a base rate increase in 13 years. The base rate is the portion of the bill that LCEC is able to manage through efficiencies, technology, and a close watch on the bottom line.

EQUITY IS A MEMBER BENEFIT THAT PAYS OFF!

Over the past 18 years, LCEC has returned more than \$303 million in equity to members as a result of strong financial management and performance. Based on margins, members are allocated equity as a credit for their investment in the electric system. Equity is not in the form of cash until it is retired. The LCEC Board of Trustees recently approved an equity retirement of \$12.2 million paid out during the third quarter. Members who have maintained an equity balance the longest receive a retirement as soon as the LCEC financial position allows.



