



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative Kilor



FIRST RESPONDER SAFETY

CCEC Mission: To serve our members' energy needs with affordable and reliable electricity

CCEC Core Values: Safety, Integrity, Innovation, Accountability, and Commitment to Community

CassCountyElectric.com

FIRST RESPONDERS

As the first ones on the scene of accidents, first responders could very likely experience a situation involving dangerous levels of electricity. Remembering a few key things can help you and others on the scene stay safe.

- Electricity can cause harm through shock, falls, and burns.
 - Electrical contact burns cause tissue damage that is skin deep and/or deeper.
 - Wounds may be visible on the body at the locations of the electrical current's entry and exit from the body.
 - Electrical arcs can ignite clothing and melt nearby materials, even metal.
 - Exposure to an electrical arc can cause wounds similar to standard high-temperature burns.
- Never attempt to move a power line or anything in contact with a power line. Make it a policy to treat every downed power line as if it's live and dangerous.
- Ensure the utility is aware of downed lines or damaged equipment, and under no circumstances leave such a situation unguarded.
- Prevent others from approaching the equipment, and continue to guard the scene until relieved or informed by an authorized utility representative that the situation is safe.

 If a power line contacts a vehicle, take the following action:

- If the driver is in a condition to drive away without damaging the line or poles, instruct them to travel at least 40 feet away before exiting the vehicle.
- If the driver is unable to drive away, instruct them to remain in the vehicle.
- Ensure the utility is notified, and warn others to stay away.
- If the vehicle's occupants must exit because of fire or other safety reasons, instruct them to jump clear of the vehicle without letting any part of their body or clothing contact the vehicle and the ground simultaneously. Instruct them to land with their feet together and shuffle away in small steps to minimize the path of electrical current. Ensure they move at least 40 feet from the vehicle.

- Look up and live when using aerial equipment! Before setting up, verify that ladders and truck antennae won't contact an energized line. Verify that there are no lines that could fall and contact vehicles.
- When water must be used near electrical equipment, keep at least 10 feet between ladders/aerial equipment and power lines or other energized items.
 - Factor in the distance wind may move a power line or your aerial equipment.
 - When spraying water, use a 30-degree fog pattern at 100 psi. Do not use a direct stream.
- During substation and transformer fires, the best course of action may be to simply let it burn. Isolate the area around the fire, and be wary of potential oil explosions or oil runoff. Always contact the utility for guidance on how to proceed safely.
- Do not pull electrical meters. This can be dangerous and may not actually disconnect power from a structure.