

GEC Remains Committed to

“PLAN OUR WORK AND WORK OUR PLAN”

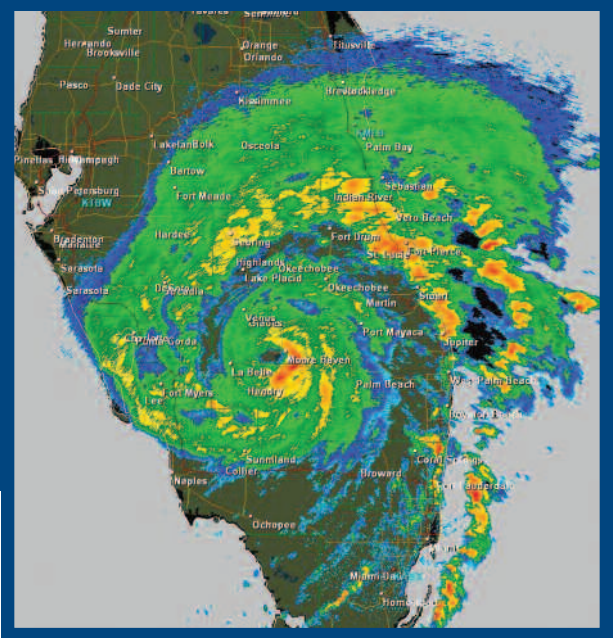
Your GEC Storm Team held its initial 2011 meeting in early May. Prior to the official start of hurricane season, The Glades Electric Storm Team meets to discuss the Emergency and Disaster Plan, commonly referred to as The Storm Book. The purpose of the meeting was to review every step in the preparation to battle impending catastrophic storms. Each member of the team reviews their specific responsibilities and discusses any possible modifications to their preparations based on information and/or experiences from prior storms.

Beginning with checklists as far out as 96 hours from projected landfall, each team member verbally recites each step in their department’s plan to ensure that no step is left unassigned or has redundant coverage. Every aspect of the prior year’s plan is dissected to assure all personnel and contact information is current. There are staging sites to secure, lists to compile of potential hotels/ motels in the event crews from outside areas are required, laundry and food arrangements for the crews, on site fueling, specialized equipment, safety procedures, contact information to insure the proper flow of information to pertinent outside agencies, and much more.

The information gathered at the kick-off meeting is used to formulate the upcoming season’s plan. Each department is responsible to submit changes deemed necessary and a new Storm Book is prepared. Once printed, the Storm Team meets again to review, page by page, the new plan.

Why re-examine every step in a process that has, historically, worked so well? Every storm is unique and presents a slightly different challenge. For instance, Hurricane Wilma knocked down a high volume of poles and lines, so the restoration effort began as soon as the storm passed and involved immense reconstruction. Whereas, Tropical Storm Fay was a “knockdown, drag-out fist fight” during the storm to attempt to keep power on as long as it was safe to remain outside, after which the restoration efforts were more dispersed and sporadic. Each required different coordination in the effort to restore power to our members as quickly as possible. By reviewing the differences in each scenario, a more efficient and universal plan can be put in place.

Most importantly, your cooperative takes pride in its preparedness. A disciplined team comprised of people who understand their role and responsibilities, and fully trust their teammates to know theirs, is the key to an organized recovery.



GEC Storm Team discusses emergency plan.

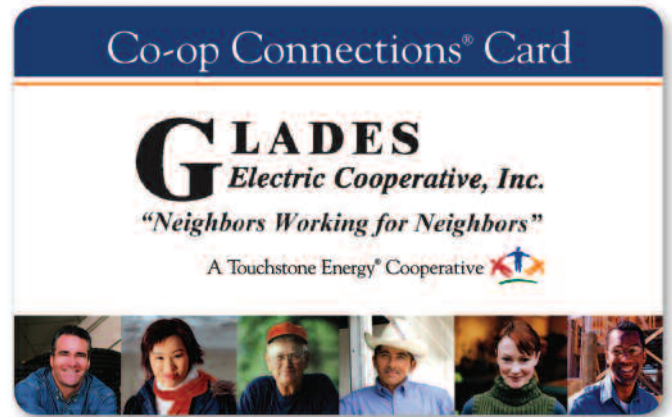


“Plan our work and work our plan” remains a promise to our members from Glades Electric Cooperative as part of being “Neighbors Working for Neighbors.”

Co-op Connections Cards Have Arrived!!

We're always looking for ways to provide value to our members and our community, especially during tough economic times. GEC, in conjunction with other Touchstone Energy® cooperatives around the country, has developed the Co-op Connections program to deliver more value to members and assist participating businesses in increasing customer visits. Stop into your local GEC office and pick up your Co-op Connections card. You can present this card at participating vendors and receive deals! The card connects you with discounts on everyday services such as hotel stays, restaurants, oil changes, and prescription drugs. There are already many local businesses signed up to offer discounts to card holders. Be sure to log on to www.gladsec.com and follow the co-op connections link to view a list of participating businesses.

One immediate benefit collectively saving cooperative members more than \$1 million dollars a month nationwide is the pharmacy discount. While it is not insurance, the discount can mean savings of 10 to 60 percent on prescription drugs. The logo and information on the back of the card is recognized at more than 60,000 national, regional, and local pharmacies. Want to find out more? Log on to www.locateproviders.com to search for pharmacies in our area honoring the card. Use the code on the back of your card as the group number under



the "Groups" login section, enter your zip code, and up pops a list of pharmacies ready to accept your card.

Start saving today, by picking up your Co-op Connections Card at your local GEC office. Glades Electric Cooperative remains "Neighbors working for Neighbors."

A Message to the Members:

STORMS AND LINEMAN

It is important for all our members to feel comfortable with the work that Glades Electric is doing during storm restoration, but to also remember that patience is a virtue. Please note the following items to assist us in the restoration process:

1) GEC is responsible for restoring power as quickly, yet as SAFELY as possible. This means that lineman must get rest in order to remain productive and safe. Typically, lineman must get an average of 5 hours of sleep a night during storm restoration. Glades Electric, as a company, will remain a 24 hour business to assist in getting the lights back on, but lineman much catch some z's to avoid creating a safety

hazard. So, do not worry if it gets quiet for a bit. They will be back out on the lines as soon as it is safe to do so.

2) Please be aware that our crews will work diligently to restore power to your area. However, we do ask that you PLEASE do not interrupt our crews in the field to ask them questions. Large scale restoration efforts are coordinated over broad areas and require crews to communicate continuously with the Storm Team leader and each other. Stopping to answer members' questions can potentially create delays and are a dangerous distraction.

Thank you for assisting us in our storm restoration efforts.

Sign Up for E-mail Notifications!

Glades Electric Cooperative is pleased to offer a new service to our members. We can now send account alerts and reminders via text message and/or email.

Members can receive due date reminders and payment confirmations directly on their laptops, home computers, or phone!

If you would like to participate, call your local GEC office. To sign up you will need to provide an email address and/or your mobile phone number and service provider information.

SIGN UP TODAY!

GEC HITS THE COURTS!!

Recently, Glades Electric Cooperative employees spent a morning on the basketball courts at the Highlands County Family YMCA. There was a group of five to be exact, just enough to fill a basketball roster. What fun they had working as a team, moving up and down the court, exercising, sweating and laughing.

You may ask yourself, what five GEC employees were doing having so much fun on a basketball court. Well there was no dunking, or three point shots fired. For that matter there were no basketballs. Gwen Valentine (Executive Assistant), Margaret Ellerbee (Director of Member Service), John

Dean (Northern District Line Superintendent), Jeff Mechlin (Business Development Coordinator) and Vic Lancaster (Business Development Coordinator) gladly picked up paint brushes and helped paint the basketball courts as part of the 2011 United Way Day of Caring.

Left to Right: Margaret Ellerbee, Vic Lancaster, Jeff Mechlin, John Dean, Gwen Valentine



Established in the 1990's, Day of Caring provides voluntary labor to local charities. More than 300 volunteers, from 30 local businesses and agencies, broke from their daily routines to work on much needed projects at United Way Partner Agencies and other non-profits in Highlands County. The help of these volunteer teams allow the agencies to perform tasks that they might not otherwise have the manpower or funds to accomplish.

The GEC team was happy to be working at the Highlands County FamilyYMCA this year. The "Y" is a cause-driven organization that is for youth development, for healthy living and for social responsibility. The basketball court was in need of a facelift and the new paintjob should inspire increased use. Hopefully, the YMCA youth will have as much fun playing basketball as we did painting the court.

GEC HAS BEEN A PROUD SPONSOR OF THE UNITED WAY DAY OF CARING FOR YEARS! GLADES ELECTRIC MEMBERS, CAN BE VERY PROUD THAT THEIR COOPERATIVE STANDS BY THE PROMISE TO BE A GOOD CORPORATE CITIZEN. AFTER ALL, WE REALLY ARE "NEIGHBORS WORKING FOR NEIGHBORS."

Gwen Valentine happily pitches in



Jeff Mechlin stops just long enough to flash a smile

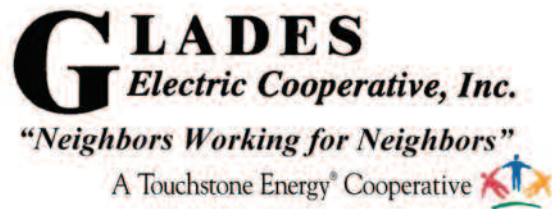


Margaret Ellerbee is always willing to help



KEEPING COOL:

Tips for Beating High Summer Electric Bills



Don't let warmer weather turn into "summertime blues" when your monthly electric bill arrives. Here are some energy-saving tips from Glades Electric Cooperative.

ADJUST THE THERMOSTAT

As TogetherWeSave.com demonstrates, lowering a thermostat in winter can save as much as \$85 per year. During warmer months, raising the thermostat a few degrees can save money, too. Set the temperature between 78-80 degrees Fahrenheit, and you could save up to 8 percent on monthly cooling bills.

BE A "FAN-ATIC"

While they don't replace air conditioners or heat pumps, fans move air and help you feel more comfortable. On milder days, fans can save as much as 60 percent on electric bills. Fans cool people, not rooms, so turn them off when you leave.

REGULAR MAINTENANCE IS ESSENTIAL

Glades Electric Cooperative recommends that members have their HVAC systems serviced annually by a NATE (North American Technician Excellence)-certified technician. This HVAC professional will check

your entire system to make sure it runs efficiently. This will help to extend the life of the system and save money.

LOOK FOR ENERGY STAR EQUIPMENT

When it's time to replace your cooling system, TogetherWeSave.com recommends replacing it with an ENERGY STAR-qualified model. Doing so could reduce your energy costs by as much as 30 percent.

BIGGER ISN'T ALWAYS BETTER

Too often, cooling equipment isn't sized properly and leads to higher electric bills. A unit that's too large for your home will not cool evenly and might produce higher humidity indoors.

Instead of getting burned this summer by high energy bills, visit www.gladesec.com or Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives energy-saving website, www.TogetherWeSave.com, for more money-saving ideas.



Over 72% of our Members continue to participate in this very worthwhile program. Operation Round Up® assists people in our service area who have exhausted the normal avenues of financial assistance. Sign up today! And your electric bill will be rounded to the nearest dollar and placed into the Roundup fund for deserving individuals and organizations.

As of April 30th, 2011 your Charitable Trust Board of Directors has approved **\$649,103.25 in disbursements**. These funds have provided assistance with food, emergency lodging, disaster relief, and specific emergency needs for **438 individuals** and or families and **90 community organizations**. The Trust **does not** fund utility bills (electric, phone, water and gas) or budgets of organizations. Organizations who are involved in our service counties may apply for funding for a specific need or project. The Board of Directors meets monthly to review applications for funding. If you know of a needy individual who deserves some assistance and lives within our service area, please help them complete an application or encourage them to fill one out themselves. Applications can be picked up at each of our three offices: Moore Haven, Lake Placid and Okeechobee.

JUNE REGULAR MEETING: JUNE 23, 2011

The Charitable Trust Board of Directors:

Barbara Hughes.....District 1Moore Haven
 Beverly EavesDistrict 2Hendry County
 Kelly Brantley.....District 3Ortona & Palmdale
 Doris EvansDistrict 4Lakeport
 Lewis Dixson.....District 5Venus & Hicoria

Lee AndrusDistrict 6Highlands Park
 Audrey Vickers.....District 7Lorida
 David Mc Cadam...District 8Lake Josephine
 Josephine Glenn.....District 9Okeechobee



**CHURCH
OF THE MONTH**

**First Indian Baptist Church
of Brighton**

20060 Reservation Road
Okeechobee, FL 34974

THIS MONTH'S WINNERS OF THE \$25.00 CREDIT ARE...

Gerald & Betty Godbee #77782057-01
 James A Fielder #77781353-01

Winners only: Just sign your name to this page
 mail it to FLM \$25.00 Credit
 Glades Electric Cooperative
 P. O. Box 519, Moore Haven, FL 33471.
 or give us a call at 1-800-226-4024

Co-op News

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John "Jack" Coxe, President, District 8
Lake Josephine, (863) 655-3056

Shannon Hall, Vice-President, District 4
Lakeport & Brighton, (863) 946-3242

Russell Henderson,
Secretary/Treasurer, District 3
Ortona & Palmdale, (863) 946-0865

Donnie Lundy, Trustee, District 1
Moore Haven, (863) 946-0402

Barney Goodman, Trustee, District 2
Hendry County, (863) 983-7324

Ladd Bass, Trustee, District 5
Venus & Hicoria, (863) 441-2227

Lee Henderson, Trustee, District 6
Highlands Park, (863) 699-1859

James "Jim" Aul, Trustee, District 7
Lorida, (863) 655-2565

Irene Lofton, Trustee, District 9
Okeechobee, (863) 467-1219

SENIOR STAFF

Tommy Todd General Manager
and CEO

Jeff Brewington Chief Financial Officer
Paul McGehee Business Development
Manager

Jody Dotson Power Supply Manager
Gwen Valentine Executive Assistant
Yvonne Bradley Manager of Human
Resources

MONTHLY MEETING

Glades Electric's Board normally meets the 4th Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at the Co-op offices in Moore Haven, Lake Placid or Okeechobee. The June board meeting will be held on Thursday, June 23, at 9:00 a.m. in the Moore Haven office. If the meeting date or location is changed, a notice will be posted in all co-op offices.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS TO CALL IN CASE OF POWER INTERRUPTION

1 (800) 226-4024 Moore Haven
1 (800) 226-4025 Lake Placid
1 (800) 226-4023 Okeechobee

GEC's telephones are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, including weekends and holidays.

Please have your Location Number or Account Number handy when you call.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

GLADES
Electric Cooperative, Inc.

TUNE IN FOR HURRICANE INFORMATION

In the event of a major storm or hurricane causing widespread damage in the Glades Electric service area, GEC will provide the information you need. If there are hurricane-related outages in your area, tune in to the radio stations at the times below. GEC will provide updates twice a day for your area.



WWLL FM 105.7 6:20 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. Highlands County



WWOJ FM 99.1 6:20 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. Highlands County



WWTK AM 730 6:55 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. Highlands County



WOKC AM 1570
FM 100.9 7:15 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. Okeechobee



WAFC FM 100.5
AM 590 7:20 a.m. & 5:15 p.m. Clewiston



Energy Efficiency

Tip of the Month

Does your home have a window air conditioner? Make sure that your window unit is properly weather stripped, and clean the filter monthly. Keep "fresh air" vents on window A/C units closed.

Source: Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives