


# CONNECTIONS



WREC MEMBER NEWSLETTER

## Quick Tips

FOR STAYING SAFE AROUND **Power Lines** 

**Look Up & Stay Aware**

- Check for overhead lines **before working** outside.
- Keep tools and ladders **away from power lines**.

**Teach Kids Safe Habits**

- No climbing trees, poles, or fences near **power lines**.
- Never fly **kites or drones** near overhead wires.

**Around the Home**

- Call **811** before digging.
- Stay away from substations and underground equipment.

**50 FT If You See a Downed Line**

- Stay at least **50 feet** away.
- Call **911**, then **WREC: 352-567-5133**.

**Vehicle Safety**

- Stay inside if a line falls on your car.
- Leave only if there's **fire—jump clear without touching the vehicle and ground at the same time**.
- Shuffle your feet together until you are at least 50 feet away**.

## STORM SEASON SAFETY STARTS WITH POWER LINES

At Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative, your safety is at the heart of everything we do. Outdoor electrical hazards can occur when people accidentally come into contact with overhead power lines. Staying alert and understanding how electricity behaves can help prevent life-threatening situations. Always assume every power line is energized.

Florida's mild winters and rainy summers cause trees to grow quickly, which can create dangerous conditions when branches grow too close to power lines. Accidents can happen during tree trimming, when a tree falls into a line, or when children climb trees near electrical equipment. Recognizing these risks is the first step toward preventing serious injury or loss.

If you encounter a downed power line, treat it as energized—even if there are no sparks or visible signs of danger. Stay at least 50 feet away and keep others clear of the area. Call 911 immediately and report the downed line to WREC at 352-567-5133. Acting quickly and cautiously can save lives.

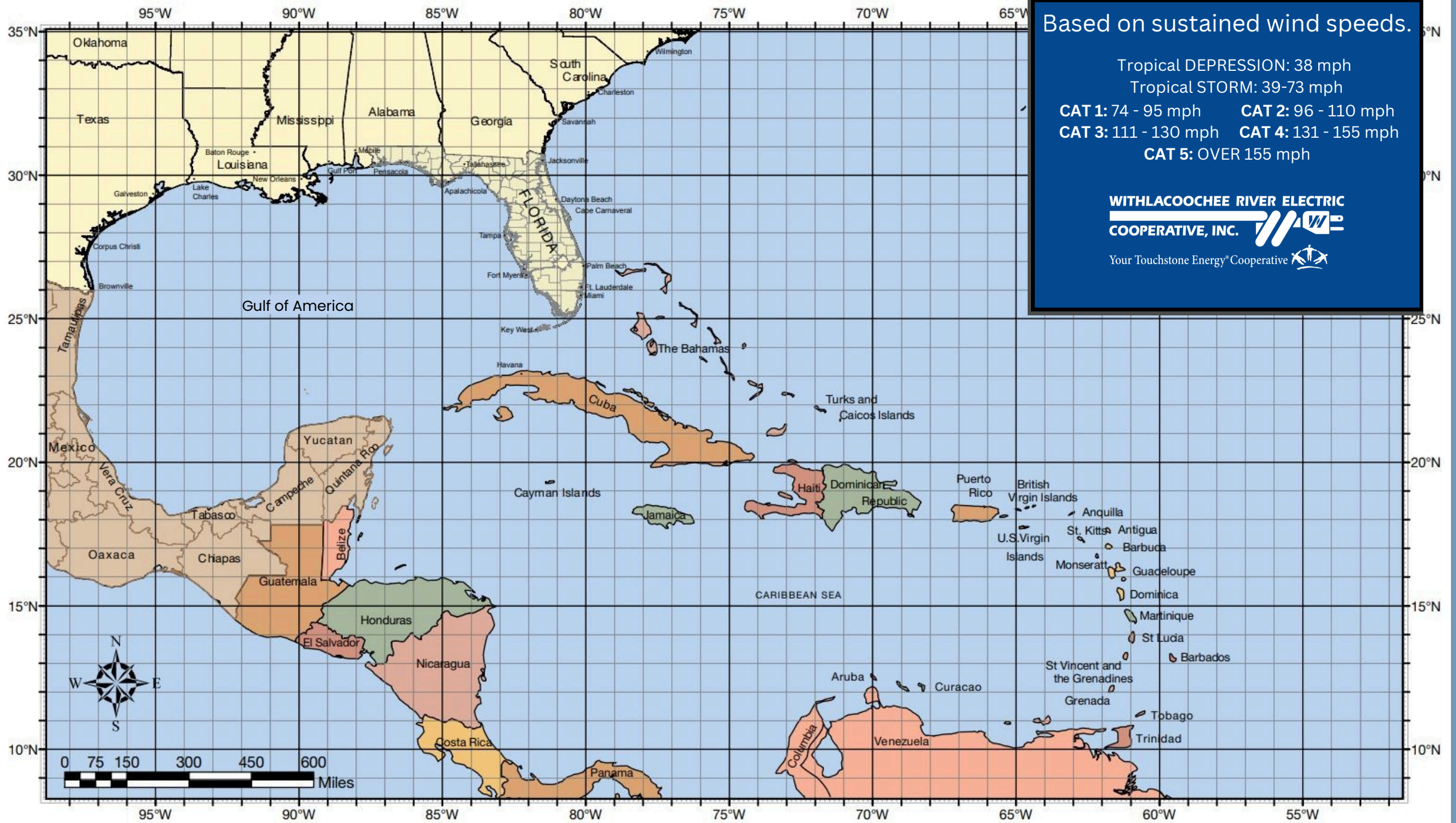
### Power Line Safety Tips

- Look up before you work. Check for power lines before trimming trees, using ladders, or lifting tall tools.
- Use qualified professionals. Hire an insured arborist for tree work near energized lines.
- Keep kids and toys away from power lines. Trees, kites, and equipment can conduct electricity—never climb poles or trees near lines.
- Call 811 before digging. Have underground utilities marked to prevent damage.
- Stay clear of electrical equipment. Never enter transformer cabinets.
- Maintain a 20-foot safety zone. Keep metal ladders, tools, antennas, vehicles, and tall equipment at least 20 feet from overhead lines—electricity can arc.

### If a Power Line Falls on Your Vehicle

- Stay inside until help arrives and the line is confirmed de-energized.
- Drive away from the hazard if you can safely.
- If the vehicle can't be moved and there is no immediate danger, remain inside.
- Avoid touching the car and ground at the same time.
- If you must exit due to fire: Jump clear with both feet together, then shuffle or hop with your feet together for at least 50 feet away from the vehicle.





After a major hurricane, there is a chance that you may not have electricity for several days. **In an emergency**, contact your district office at the numbers listed on the back of your Member news. Remember, during large power outages, phone lines may be very busy for long periods of time. The most efficient way to report a power outage is through the WREC mobile app. Scan the appropriate QR code to download the app on your mobile device. You can also text "OUT" to 855-938-3431.

WREC  
Mobile App  
for Android



WREC  
Mobile App  
for Apple



WREC Storm  
Center



## DID YOU KNOW?

WREC HAS A STORM CENTER PAGE ON WREC.NET WITH RESOURCES FOR HURRICANE SEASON



# Streetlight Out?

To report a streetlight in need of repair, please call your local cooperative office or log on to [wrec.net](http://wrec.net) and click on the 'Repair Street Light' button (or scan the QR code), then complete and submit the Street Light Repair Request Form. You can also download the WREC mobile app and request a street light repair.



Scan to Report

## LOCAL WREC NUMBERS

**Billy E. Brown Corporate Center: 352-567-5133**  
**One Pasco Center District Office: 352-588-5115**  
**Bayonet Point District Office: 727-868-9465**  
**West Hernando District Office: 352-596-4000**  
**Crystal River District Office: 352-795-4382**

## Stay in the Know

Be sure to follow us on our social media platforms.



Scan to visit [wrec.net](http://wrec.net)

## GENERATOR SAFETY TIPS

### Safety Tips for Using a Generator

- 1. Prioritize Safety:** Always put safety first when operating a generator.
- 2. Read the Manual:** Thoroughly review the manufacturer's manual before using the generator.
- 3. Outdoor Use Only:** Operate the generator outdoors in a well-ventilated area. Never use it indoors or in enclosed spaces like garages, basements, or crawl spaces to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.
- 4. Proper Grounding:** Ensure the generator is grounded according to the manufacturer's instructions to prevent electrical shocks.
- 5. Keep Away from Children and Pets:** Keep children and pets at a safe distance from the generator while it's running to prevent accidents.
- 6. Avoid Direct Connection to Home Electrical System:** Never connect a standby generator directly to your home's electrical system.
- 7. Start Before Connecting Appliances:** Start the generator before plugging in any appliances.
- 8. Use Heavy-Duty Extension Cords:** Connect electric appliances using heavy-duty extension cords.



CONNECTIONS is published by:

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Your Board of Trustees meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the Corporate Office in Dade City to conduct the business of the Cooperative and its subsidiaries. LEGAL NOTICE: Operation Round-Up is a registered trade name for WRECares. 100% of all contributions are available for disbursement. Registration #SC-02353. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free from within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state. 1-800-435-7352.

**WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

