

DOWNED POWER LINE SAFETY TIPS

Downed power lines can carry an electric current strong enough to cause serious injury or even death. Electricity wants to move from a high voltage zone to a low voltage zone – and it could do that through your body.

STAY SAFE

- **Move away from a downed power line** and anything touching it. The ground around power lines – up to 35 feet away – may be energized.
- You cannot tell if a power line is energized just by looking at it. **Assume all downed power lines are live.**
- To move away from the power line properly, **shuffle away with small steps**, keeping your feet together and on the ground at all times. This minimizes the potential for a strong electric shock.
- If you see someone who is in direct or indirect contact with a downed line, **do not touch the person**. You could become the next victim. Call 911 for help.
- **Do not drive over** downed power lines.
- Be careful **not to touch or step in water** near where a downed power line is located.
- **Do not try to move a downed power line** or anything else in contact with it by using an object such as a broom or stick. Even non-conductive materials like wood or cloth can conduct electricity if even slightly wet.
- If your car comes in contact with a downed power line while you are inside, **stay in the car** and honk the horn to summon help – but direct others to stay away from your car.
- If you must leave your car because it is on fire, jump out of the vehicle with both feet together and **avoid contact with both the car and ground** at the same time. Shuffle away from the car.

CONCORD MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT

ELECTRIC | BROADBAND | ENERGY MANAGEMENT

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Source: ESFi.org

