Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Where customers have a choice

A MESSAGE FOR YOU

Mark A. Suggs
EVP and General Manager

Geared Up For Safety

Can you imagine working a job that requires you to lift heavy equipment and perform detailed tasks near deadly high voltage? Now imagine doing this 40 feet in the air, and sometimes, in extreme weather. This is the life of a lineman.

These brave men answer when called, and they do so to ensure that you are provided with safe, reliable electric service. But how do they stay safe when working in these conditions? All linemen are required to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at all times when on the job to keep them safe. Let's take a look at a lineman's PPE.

Fire resistant (FR) clothing

While our linemen do everything possible to prevent them, unexpected fires can happen. Fires typically occur with an arc flash, this is an explosion that results from a low-impedance connection to a ground phase in an electrical system. FR clothing will self-extinguish, thus limiting injury due to burn.

Insulated gloves

Linemen must wear insulated rubber gloves when working on any type of electrical line. These gloves provide protection against electrical shock and burn, and are tested at 30,000 volts. Protective gloves, usually made of leather, are worn over the insulated gloves to protect the rubber from punctures and cuts.

Hard hat

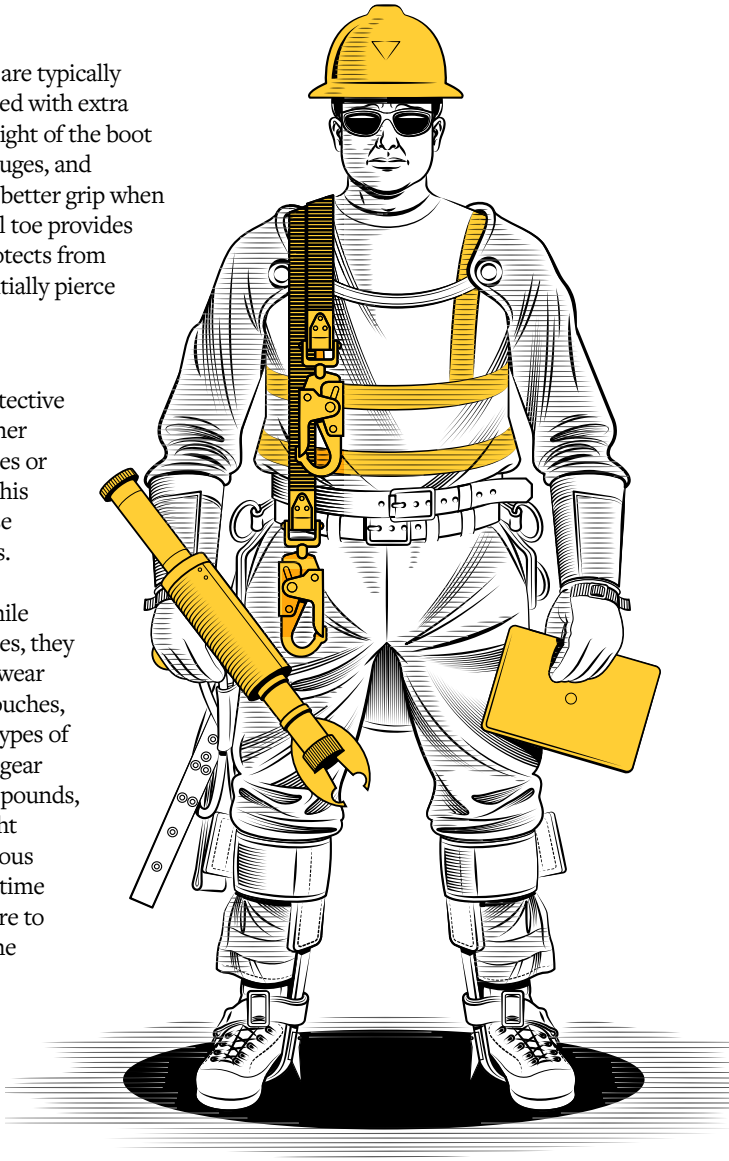
Insulated hard hats are worn at all times to protect them from blows and falling objects.

Steel toe boots

These heavy-duty boots are typically 16 inches tall and designed with extra support in mind. The height of the boot shields linemen from gouges, and serrated heels provide a better grip when climbing poles. The steel toe provides sturdier support and protects from objects that could potentially pierce the feet.

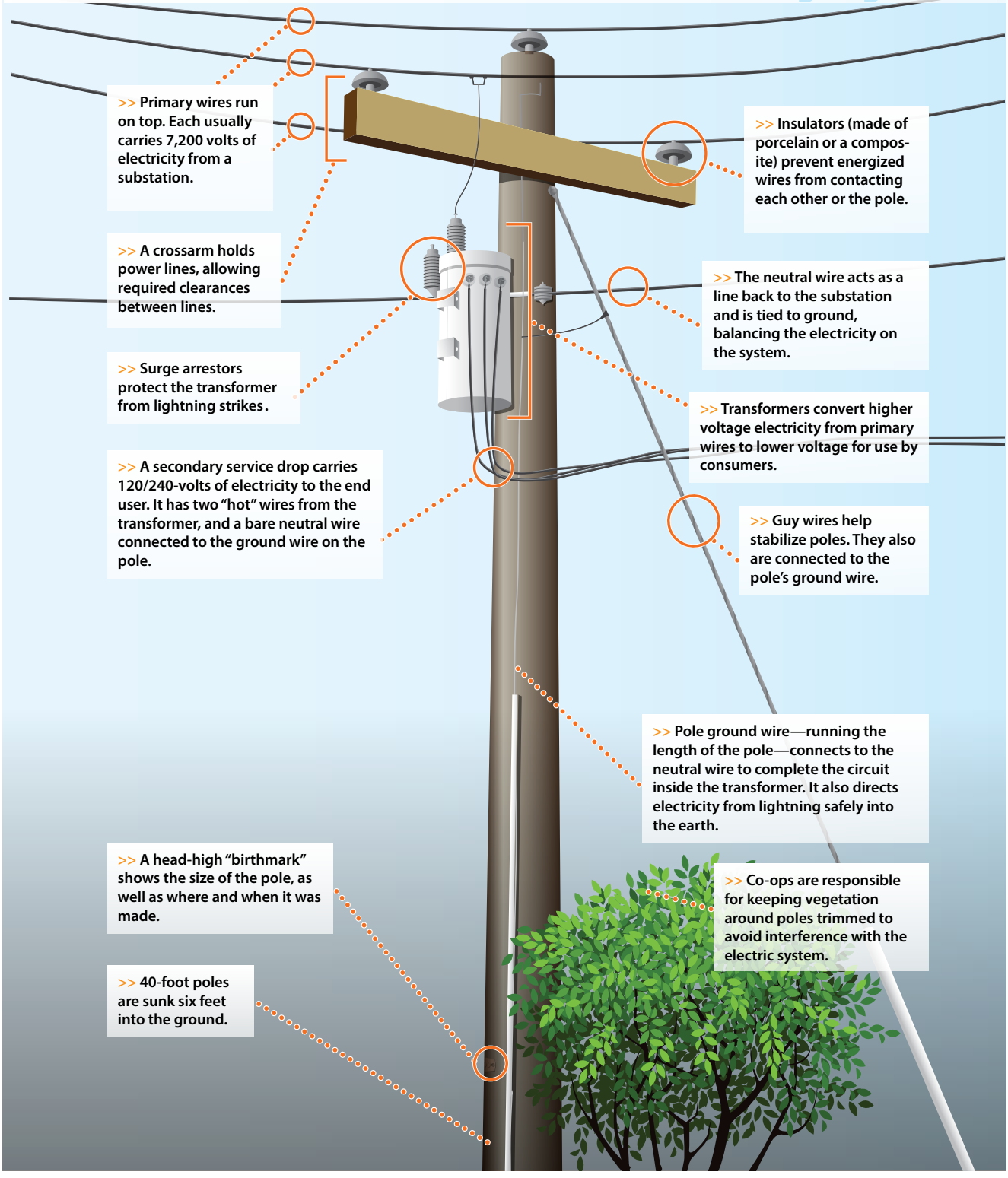
Safety goggles

Linemen must wear protective goggles or glasses, whether working on electrical lines or clearing rights-of-way. This protects them from loose debris and other hazards. These items make up a lineman's basic PPE. While working on electrical lines, they also may be required to wear equipment belts, tool pouches, safety straps and other types of equipment. A lineman's gear usually weighs about 50 pounds, that's a lot of extra weight when working in hazardous conditions. So, the next time you see a lineman, be sure to thank him for keeping the lights on. More importantly, thank him for the hard, and often times dangerous work they do, day in and day out.



>> What's on that pole?

This illustration shows basic equipment found on electric power distribution poles. Not all poles have all this equipment on them. They vary according to location and the service they provide.



WHAT TO DO: IF YOUR CAR CRASHES INTO A UTILITY POLE

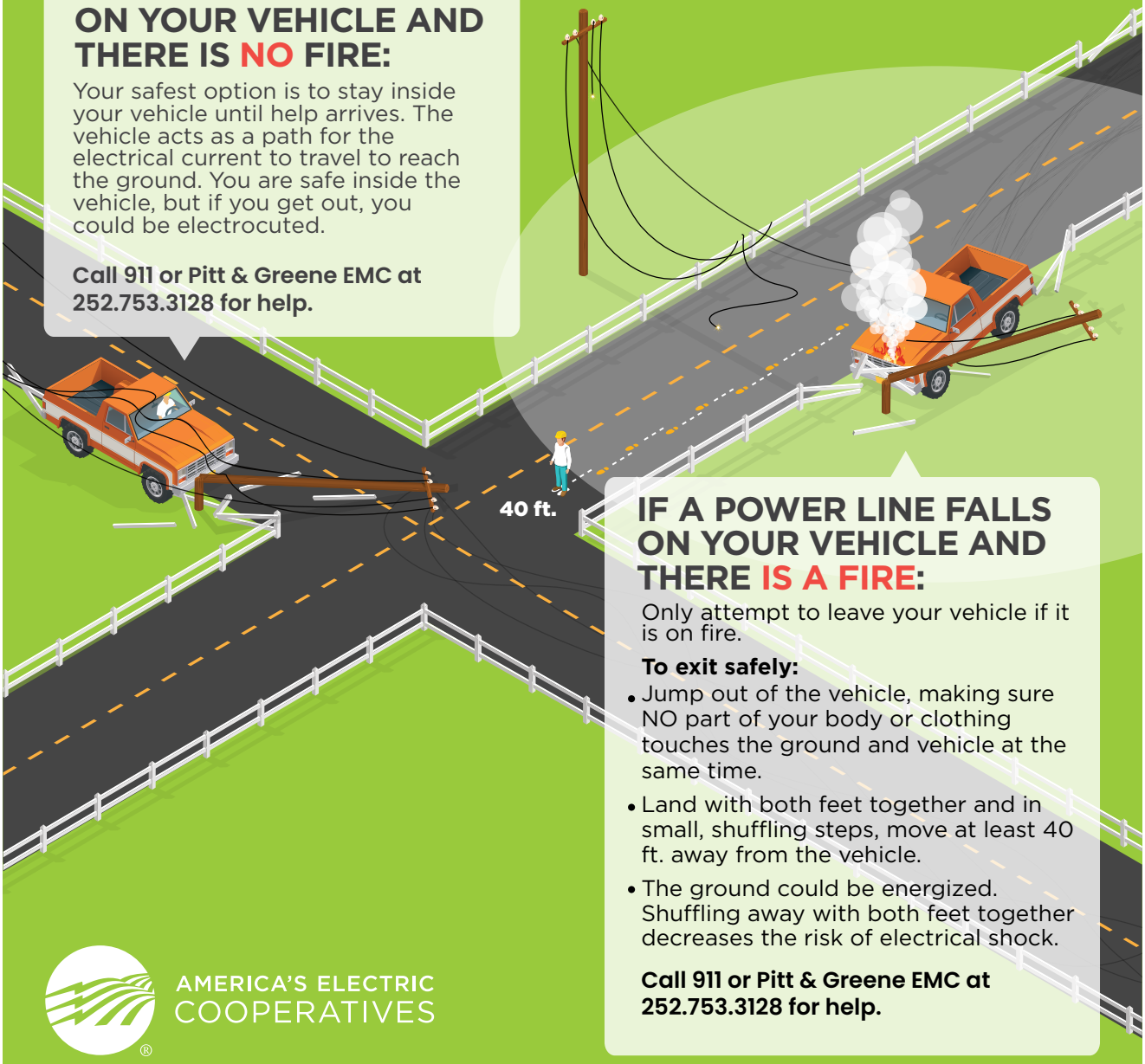
Accidents happen. Would you know what to do if your car crashed into an electric utility pole? Knowing what to do could be the difference between life and death.

Always consider power lines and other electrical equipment to be live and dangerous!

IF A POWER LINE FALLS ON YOUR VEHICLE AND THERE IS NO FIRE:

Your safest option is to stay inside your vehicle until help arrives. The vehicle acts as a path for the electrical current to travel to reach the ground. You are safe inside the vehicle, but if you get out, you could be electrocuted.

Call 911 or Pitt & Greene EMC at 252.753.3128 for help.



IF A POWER LINE FALLS ON YOUR VEHICLE AND THERE IS A FIRE:

Only attempt to leave your vehicle if it is on fire.

To exit safely:

- Jump out of the vehicle, making sure NO part of your body or clothing touches the ground and vehicle at the same time.
- Land with both feet together and in small, shuffling steps, move at least 40 ft. away from the vehicle.
- The ground could be energized. Shuffling away with both feet together decreases the risk of electrical shock.

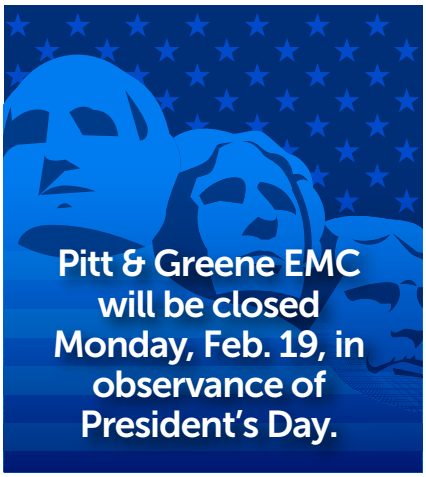
Call 911 or Pitt & Greene EMC at 252.753.3128 for help.

AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

ENERGY EFFICIENCY
TIP OF THE MONTH

Area rugs are an easy, cost-effective solution to cold floors. Adding area rugs to hard-surface flooring can add warmth to any room and keep your feet cozy on cold winter days.

Choose rugs made from wool or other natural fibers and plush or high-pile textures for the most insulation. Place rugs in areas where you need additional warmth, like the foot of a bed or under a coffee table. Area rugs can enhance the aesthetic of your home and keep you cozier.



Spring Forward

Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday, March 10.

Move your clocks forward 1 hour.

Do you need to update your contact information with us? If you have a new telephone number or need to add a second contact to your account, please call our office at 252-753-3128 and speak with a Customer Service Representative.

Are you putting the lives of our lineman in danger?

Although seemingly innocent enough, putting any type of item on utility poles creates serious safety hazards. Staples, nails and tacks used to hang signs, the signs themselves, as well as any other objects, pose dangers to Pitt & Greene EMC lineworkers who must climb poles when either restoring power following storms or while performing routine maintenance to ensure system reliability.

Posters, birdhouses, balloons, flags, basketball goals, signs, etc. create dangerous obstacles for lineworkers. The nails and tacks left behind can snag utility workers boots or puncture safety clothing, making lineworkers vulnerable to slipping or worse, electrocution.

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Co-op Office Hours
Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.
252-753-3128 | 1-800-622-1362 | 252-747-7600

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