

# SAFETY BULLETIN

## Responding to Electric Emergencies for First Responders

Consumers Energy  
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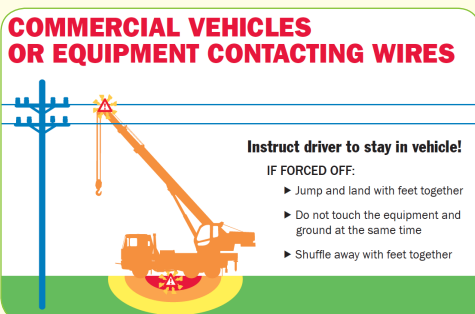
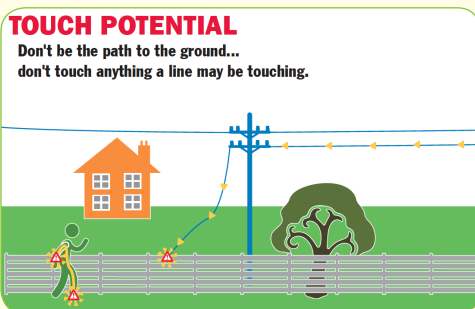
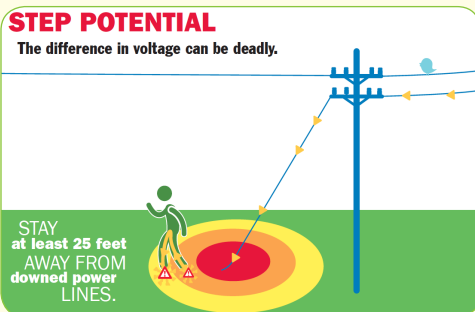
July 2015

**C**ONSUMERS ENERGY is committed to working with public first responders to ensure the safety of our communities.

To help ensure the safety of your team and the public, we're sharing **some recent injuries/near misses** involving police officers and firefighters responding to utility emergencies. Please share this information with your team.

■ **First responder handles downed power line** – In Calhoun County, a first responder mistakenly handled a downed power line that had fallen across a major roadway, unaware that it was a power line.

- **First responder shocked responding to vehicle accident** – In Kent County, a first responder was shocked while responding to a vehicle accident involving a utility pole. The first responder was shocked after getting too close to a downed energized power line.
- **First responders shocked while attending electrocution victim** – In Ottawa County, two first responders were shocked while trying to resuscitate a victim that had been electrocuted. The first responders were unaware of the electric hazard present (power lines entangled in machinery) and were shocked.



## 7 SAFETY TIPS FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

1. For utility emergencies involving Consumers Energy facilities, call

# 800-382-0015

*This number is for emergency responders/9-1-1 dispatch centers only.*

2. Assess the hazards of each scene, and watch out for your safety before assisting others.
3. Assume all wires are energized.
4. Always stay 25 feet away from downed power lines.
5. Never touch anything that a power line may be touching.
6. For vehicle accidents involving utility poles, approach the scene slowly, using extra caution at night. From a safe distance, instruct occupants to stay in vehicle and wait for Consumers Energy.
7. Never enter an underground vault or substation. Wait for Consumers Energy to arrive to develop an action plan.

# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR PUBLIC FIRST RESPONDERS

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## Emergency Officials

### First Responder Training

We provide in-person education sessions for emergency officials, such as police and fire departments, on natural gas or electric hazards and responding to utility-related emergencies. Contact our [Public Safety Outreach team](#) to request safety training and educational resources. [Find a Public Safety Outreach team member in your area.](#)

**FIRST RESPONDER GUIDE: ELECTRIC EMERGENCIES**

**FIRST RESPONDER GUIDE: NATURAL GAS EMERGENCIES**

**Safety**

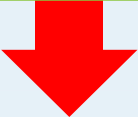
- Natural Gas
- Electric
- Emergency Officials**
- Work Safe
- Kids and Teachers
- Emergency Preparedness

WORKING TOGETHER FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES. THAT'S OUR PROMISE TO MICHIGAN.

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- **Dedicated Public Safety Outreach team** that provides in-person education sessions for emergency officials on responding to utility related emergencies.
  - **Password protected Emergency Officials portal** that provides access to our system maps (electric/gas), request training, access safety downloads and other resources.
  - **First responder guides** that provide a quick reference for first responders on responding to electric and/or natural gas emergencies
  - **If you have any additional questions** about this Safety Bulletin, would like to request access to the Emergency Officials portal, would like additional copies of our first responder guides or to request training for your department, please contact the Public Safety Team at [publicsafety@cmsenergy.com](mailto:publicsafety@cmsenergy.com) or visit [www.ConsumersEnergy.com/safety](http://www.ConsumersEnergy.com/safety).

## THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!

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