



CONNECTIONS

News and Information from OUC—The *Reliable One* | SEPTEMBER 2016

INSIDE

Downed Power Lines
Momentary Power Outages
Public Power Week
National Night Out



Stay Far Away From Downed Power Lines

It's a common myth that power lines are insulated like a power cord, making them safe to touch even while energized. **THIS IS ABSOLUTELY FALSE!** Power lines are not insulated. In fact, what may look like insulation is actually weatherproofing material. Here are some common questions and answers to keep in mind if you encounter a downed power line:

⚡ WHAT DO I DO IF I SEE A DOWNED POWER LINE?

Stay far away and immediately call **9-1-1** or OUC at **407-423-9018**.

⚡ WHAT IF A POWER LINE IS TOUCHING MY VEHICLE?

Stay in the vehicle and immediately call **9-1-1**. Make sure people around the vehicle stay far away. Exit the vehicle only when safety officials give you the all clear.

⚡ WHAT IF A VEHICLE I'M IN CATCHES FIRE AFTER COMING INTO CONTACT WITH A POWER LINE?

Jump as far away from the vehicle as possible making sure that no part of your body touches the vehicle and the ground at the same time. Land with both feet together and shuffle at least 30 feet away, keeping your feet in constant contact with the ground.

⚡ CAN I DRIVE OVER A DOWNED POWER LINE?

No! It is a myth that tires protect you from electric voltage. Also, even if not energized, power lines can become entangled in your vehicle.

⚡ CAN I MOVE A DOWNED POWER LINE MYSELF?

No! The line may be energized and should only be moved by utility workers.

What Causes Momentary Power Outages?

A momentary outage – when your lights flicker or dim, then brighten again – is an electric interruption that usually lasts less than one second. These outages are usually caused by an automatic defense mechanism that's built into OUC's electric system and in many other high-quality systems across the nation. It's designed to prevent long-term outages requiring the deployment of line technicians. So, let's say a branch or squirrel makes contact with a power line.

The system automatically senses it, briefly opens the line, and allows whatever made contact time to clear. While certainly inconvenient, these very small voltage changes do not damage homes or businesses and they don't require surge protection as a lightning strike would. OUC works hard year-round to limit these momentary outages through regular tree-trimming near power lines and by maintaining wildlife protection at overhead transformer locations.





Join Us In Celebrating Public Power Week 2016

OUC will join more than 2,000 community-owned electric utilities across the nation to celebrate Public Power Week, **October 2-8, 2016**. These utilities collectively provide electricity to nearly 48 million Americans. Municipal utilities are proud to focus on a common mission – providing reliable electricity at a reasonable price, while protecting the environment.

During the week, OUC's social media channels will provide insight into the benefits and unique values of having a hometown utility.



PUBLIC POWER

AN AMERICAN TRADITION THAT WORKS®

#PublicPowerWeek • October 2-8, 2016

Mayor Buddy Dyer and Orlando Police Chief John W. Mina present



OCTOBER 4, 2016

#orlandoNNO

POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

A GOOD NIGHT TO GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS

Help build a stronger, safer community by giving crime a going away party. For more information on how to host your own National Night Out event, go to cityoforlando.net/nno or call 407.246.2369.

- Free street closures for each registered party.
- Free National Night Out (NNO) party package complete with NNO banner and other party goods.
- Each registered party will be visited by their City Commissioner and their assigned neighborhood police officer.
- Be sure and enter the NNO theme contest for a chance to win \$300 and a visit from Mayor Buddy Dyer, Police Chief John W. Mina and Fire Chief Roderick Williams.



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