

# Safety: You Have The Power!

## What should you do when you see a tree touching a power line?

*Never touch the tree, tell an adult to call GVEA, stay away from it, keep others away from it, never climb it, etc.*

## Is it ok to move or cut a tree that is lying on a power line, even when there are no sparks, smoke or fire, and it appears that electricity is out in the area?

*No. Never touch any object that is touching a power line. Electricity is normally invisible, and can harm you instantly. Keep yourself and others away and call 911 or GVEA.*

## Why do birds that perch on power lines not get electrocuted?

*The bird is not touching the ground, so there is no path to ground.*

## Why is it important to call 811 before digging?

*So GVEA can locate underground power lines and homeowners or workers can avoid touching them, preventing electrocution.*

## What is the fenced area that has large electrical equipment and big wires in it called, and what does it do?

*Substation - It reduces electricity down from a super high voltage to a voltage required for homes and businesses.*

## Is it safe or ok to climb a substation fence or go inside a substation? Why?

*No, never. The equipment present in sub stations carries a high enough voltage that contact with any of it will most likely result in serious harm (death) by electrocution.*

## What is one thing you should always do before flying a kite?

*Look up and stay away from all power lines. Electricity can travel down kites' string and harm you if kite contacts the power line.*

## Describe what "path to ground" is.

*Electricity passes from the power line, through the object touching the power line, and out of the object into the ground. If you touch the object touching the power line (tree, kite string, etc), you will become the path to ground which results in shock/electrocution.*

## What is the name of the green metal "boxes" located on the ground?

*Transformers.*

## What should you do if you see a transformer tipped over or its door is open?

*Do not touch, keep yourself and others away, and call GVEA.*

## If you are in a car or truck that has come in contact with a power line or transformer, what should you do?

*Stay in the vehicle and wait for GVEA or emergency services to arrive. Do not exit vehicle until told to do so.*

## You are playing (football, frisbie, baseball, etc) with friends near a substation and the ball goes over the fence into the substation. What should you do?

*Keep away from the fence. Call a parent or GVEA. Never climb the fence, dig under the fence or enter any open gates. Your ball or item can be rescued by GVEA.*

