

# CURRENTS

JNEC's September 2024 Newsletter



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## As you hunt, look out for power lines and poles

### Stay safe this hunting season in more ways than one

Now that hunting season is upon us, [Safe Electricity](#) reminds hunters to survey their surroundings before aiming at the next big prize. Take a moment to look up and out for power lines before starting the hunt.

While electrical safety may not be top of mind when starting a hunt, contact with a power line, utility pole or related equipment can alter the path to ground, sending electricity through anyone or anything that comes too close or in direct contact with the power source," says Erin Hollinshead, executive director of Safe Electricity. "Even coming within 10 feet can cause an arc, transferring energy from the power line/source to an object or person."

### A look at general hunting safety

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that 101.6 million Americans participate in wildlife-related activities each year, such as hunting, fishing and wildlife-watching. It is estimated that there are 11.5 million hunters and nearly 36 million anglers.

Hunting is ranked as one of the safer activities when compared with other sports, including baseball, football, basketball and jogging. Over the past 20 years, the number of unintentional firearm fatalities has declined. From 1997 to 2017, the number dropped by 50%, according to the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF.org).

Hunters should put safety first, as incidents and accidents do happen. Cardiac disease, lacerations and tree-stand accidents are the most common reasons for hunters to visit the emergency room.

Be safe out there and follow these guidelines:

1. Write and share a hunting plan. Where will the hunt take place and for how long?
2. Wear blaze orange.
3. Know the hunting area. Check national forest boundaries and avoid private land. Survey the area for potential electrical hazards.
4. Do not lean tree stands against utility poles. Keep them far from overhead power lines.
5. Watch for power lines in wooded areas. Make sure they will not be in your line of sight when shooting.
6. Do not fire at power lines, insulators or conductor cans. They can drop to the ground and energize it or cause a fire.
7. Wear a full-body harness when in a tree stand to prevent falls that can cause serious injury.
8. Check tree stands regularly; they can deteriorate over time.
9. Watch for the warning signs of a heart attack or other life-threatening condition. Hunters can walk far distances when shooting and dragging an animal. Completing these activities (especially if the person is not otherwise active) can increase the heart rate and induce heart attacks.
10. Have a way to get in touch with the outside world. Keep your cell phone in a pocket rather than in a pack. Take a portable battery charger.
11. Always carry a first-aid kit.
12. Respect firearms: Have the safety on, handle the gun like it is always loaded, always point it away from others and know what and where the target is.



# Hurricane Preparedness

Hurricane Season is June 1- Nov. 30.

## Preparedness Checklist:

- ✔ **Make an Evacuation Plan.** Find activated evacuation routes here: [DriveTexas.org](http://DriveTexas.org) or by dialing (800) 452-9292. Call **2-1-1** to find out if you live in an evacuation zone.
- ✔ **Sign-Up for Emergency Alerts.** Make sure your device is enabled to receive Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEAs).
- ✔ **Prepare an Emergency Supply Kit.** Learn how to build an emergency kit here: <https://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>
- ✔ **Review Your Home Insurance Policy.**
- ✔ **Register with State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR):** <https://stear.tdem.texas.gov/> or by dialing **2-1-1** if you live in evacuation zone and:
  - have a disability or medical needs and do not have a car or other vehicle to use in an evacuation.
  - have a disability or medical needs and do not have friends or family to help in an evacuation. **\*\*STEAR Registry information collected is confidential\*\***

### Hurricane Preparedness Online Resources:

Texas Division of Emergency Management Website: [www.tdem.texas.gov](http://www.tdem.texas.gov)  
Texas Department of State Health Services: [www.texasready.gov](http://www.texasready.gov)  
American Red Cross: [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security: [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)  
Office of the Texas Governor Greg Abbott: [www.gov.texas.gov](http://www.gov.texas.gov)



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# Preparación para Huracanes

La temporada de huracanes es del 1 de Junio al 30 de Noviembre.

## Lista de verificación de preparación:

- ✔ **Haga un Plan de Evacuación.** Encuentre rutas de evacuación activadas aquí: [DriveTexas.org](http://DriveTexas.org) o marcando (800) 452-9292. Llame **2-1-1** para averiguar si usted vive en una zona de evacuación.
- ✔ **Regístrese para recibir alertas de emergencia.** Asegúrese de que su dispositivo esté habilitado para recibir Alertas de Emergencia Inalámbricas (AEI).
- ✔ **Prepare un estuche de Suministros de Emergencia.** Aprenda cómo construir un estuche de emergencia aquí: <https://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>
- ✔ **Revise su póliza de seguro de hogar.**
- ✔ **Regístrese en el Registro de Asistencia de Emergencia del Estado de Texas (RAEET):** <https://stear.tdem.texas.gov/> o marcando el **2-1-1** si vive en una zona de evacuación y:
  - tiene una discapacidad o necesidades médicas y no tiene un automóvil u otro vehículo para usar en una evacuación
  - tiene una discapacidad o necesidades médicas y no tiene amigos o familiares para ayudar en una evacuación. **\*\* La información recolectada del Registro RAEET es confidencial \*\***

### Recursos en línea para la preparación en caso de huracanes:

Sitio web de la División de Administración de Emergencias de Texas: [www.tdem.texas.gov](http://www.tdem.texas.gov)  
Departamento de Servicios de Salud del Estado: [www.texasready.gov](http://www.texasready.gov)  
Cruz Roja Americana: [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)  
Departamento de Seguridad Nacional de los Estados Unidos: [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)  
Oficina del Gobernador de Texas Greg Abbott: [www.gov.texas.gov](http://www.gov.texas.gov)

