

# DOWNED AND DANGEROUS

Downed power lines can be deadly. **ALWAYS** assume a downed power line is live and avoid going near it or anything in contact with it.

## USE PRECAUTION

Downed power lines can energize the ground up to **35 feet** away.

If you see a downed power line, immediately **notify** the local authorities.

**Never** drive over downed power lines or through water that is in contact with them.

Never try to move a downed power line. Even using items that typically are not conductive **will not** prevent injury or death.

## KNOW WHAT TO DO

The safe way to move away from a downed power line is to **shuffle** away with small steps, keeping your feet together and on the ground at all times.

If your car comes in contact with a downed power line while you are inside, **stay in the car**. Do not touch any part of the car's frame or any other metal. Use a cell phone or honk your horn to summon help. Allow only rescue personnel to approach the car.

**If your car is in contact with a downed power line and you must exit due to fire or another imminent threat:**

Do not touch the vehicle and the ground at the **same time** with any part of your body or clothing.

Open the door to your vehicle without touching the metal door **frame**.

Jump out of the vehicle with both **feet together** and so both feet land at the **same time**.

**Shuffle** away so that the toe of one foot shuffles forward along the length of the other foot, ensuring that both feet are in constant contact and always touching the ground.

If someone comes in contact with a downed power line or something else that has become electrified, **call 911 immediately**.

**Never touch** someone who has come in contact with a power line. They are energized and pose a danger to anyone who comes in contact with them.

**Remember** power lines don't have to fall in order to be dangerous. Always **call 811** before you dig and keep yourself and your equipment at least **10 feet** from overhead power lines.

ESFi For more power line and severe weather safety tips visit [www.esfi.org](http://www.esfi.org).

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