



OFFICE OF CITY MANAGER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 12, 2019

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:  
Fire Department  
248-871-2800

## Fire Department Warning on Hazards of Downed Power Lines

With spring and summer storms upon us, the Farmington Hills Fire Department wants to remind everyone about the hazards of downed power lines and the safety measures needed to avoid injury.

The Fire Department offers the following safety tips:

- If you come across a downed power line, get away from it! Move away in a "shuffle" by taking small steps and dragging your feet along while not lifting them fully from the ground.
- Don't touch anything that the wire may be in contact with.
- You can't tell if a power line is energized just by looking at it, so assume that all downed power lines are live.
- Do not attempt to move a downed power line or anything else in contact with it, even using objects such as sticks or poles.
- If you see someone in contact with a power line, do not touch that person, they may be energized themselves.
- Do not drive over downed power lines.
- If your car comes in contact with a downed power line, stay in the vehicle and honk your horn to direct others to stay away.
- If you must exit your vehicle due to it being on fire, jump out with both feet at the same time and your hands at your sides. Make sure you are not touching the car when your feet hit the ground. Do not make contact with the car and the ground at the same time.

Call 9-1-1 **immediately** and keep all adults, children, and pets away from the area until the Fire Department arrives.

Please contact the Farmington Hills Fire Department at 248-871-2800 if you have questions regarding this topic or any other safety concerns.

**END**

*Attached is a video taken by Farmington Hills Fire Chief Jon Unruh that shows the energy and danger associated with downed power lines.*

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