

Power line down over road/another vehicle:

1. Be calm. Stay away from the downed line and, if a vehicle is involved, tell the occupants to **stay in their vehicle**. DO NOT touch the vehicle or its occupants.
2. Call 911 and relay a location/driving directions to the downed line/scene. They will call St. Croix Electric: 800-924-3407 or Xcel Energy: 800-895-1999.
3. Give your best description of the problem: pole/lines down, arcing line, tree on line, vehicle accident, people in vehicle, injuries or no one on the scene.
4. Vehicle accident: If a line or power equipment is in contact with the vehicle, the vehicle frame is energized, but occupants will be safe as long as they stay in the vehicle. If the vehicle is on fire or other life-threatening circumstances exist in which it would be more dangerous to remain in the vehicle, visually locate ALL power lines/equipment and verbally guide the occupants to the exit farthest away from the power source. Tell them to jump out of the vehicle - DO NOT touch the vehicle and the ground at the same time. KEEP THEIR FEET TOGETHER and hop or shuffle away from the vehicle/power line at least 25 yards. ***This is the last resort.*** Staying in the vehicle is the safest choice, if possible.
5. Back away and block the road until help arrives or until you are released by a first responder/utility worker. Vehicles driving over power lines can be damaged.

Accident involving a power line, pole or underground electrical enclosure (green box):

1. **Stay in the vehicle.** Assess any injuries to passengers. Stay calm.
2. Call 911 to report the accident. They should also call the local utility (St. Croix Electric: 800-924-3407 or Xcel Energy: 800-895-1999).
3. Stay inside the vehicle and assess the situation outside (e.g., lines down, pole down, arcing lines, fire, leaking fluids, etc.). Visually locate all power lines/equipment; assume it is all energized.
4. If a life-threatening situation exists (e.g., fire, severe continuous arcing or an unstable crushing incident, etc.) and it is more dangerous to remain in the vehicle, find the exit farthest away from power lines/equipment and jump out of the vehicle - **DO NOT** touch the vehicle and the ground at the same time. **KEEP YOUR FEET TOGETHER** and hop or shuffle away from the vehicle/power line. ***This is the last resort.*** Staying in the vehicle is the safest choice, if possible.
5. Keep the dispatcher aware of changes that occur to the situation before help arrives.
6. **Keep everyone away from the vehicle until a uniformed lineworker says it is safe to exit/approach the vehicle.**



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VEHICLE SAFETY