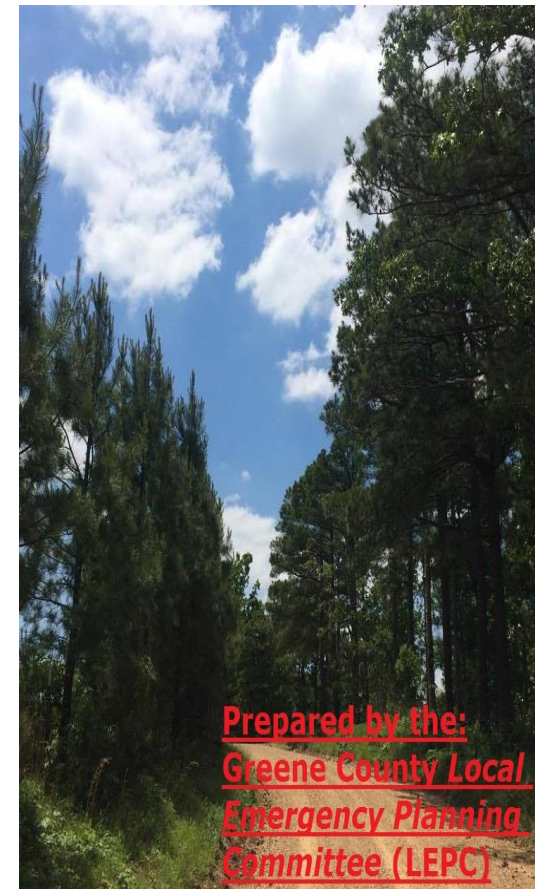


“He who fails to plan is planning to fail.” – Sir Winston Churchill

The Greene County LEPC serves as the link between citizens, industry, and government in promoting planning, training, education, and professional development of its members in order to enhance programs which encourage the safety and health of the residents of Greene County. These initiatives include conducting educational programs to help the public understand safety risks and community rights.

Greene County LEPC  
320 West Court Street # 107  
Paragould, AR 72450

# Hazards of Greene County High Winds





Locally, high winds usually precede severe thunderstorms in the spring and summer. Many of these winds can be damaging or as equally devastating as a tornado so it is important for citizens to take proper precautionary measures when high winds become a threat while at home, work, or on the road.

### Terms Describing Wind Speed

- **LIGHT or LIGHT AND VARIABLE** 0 to 5 mph
- **GENTLE BREEZE** 5 to 15 mph
- **BREEZY, BRISK, BLUSTERY** 15 to 25 mph
- **WINDY** 20 to 30 mph
- **VERY WINDY** 30 to 40 mph
- **STRONG, DANGEROUS, HIGH** 40 mph or greater
- **HIGH WIND WARNING** Issued for sustained winds of 40 mph or more for 1 hour, or wind gusts 58 mph or greater.

"A great wind is blowing, and that gives you either imagination or a headache."  
- Catherine the Great

## In the Event of a Downed Power Line

### Report downed lines to 911.

- Avoid anything that may be touching downed lines, including vehicles or tree branches. If possible, warn approaching traffic of the hazard.
- If a line falls on your car, stay inside the vehicle. Do not touch the metal frame of your vehicle.
- If the car catches fire, open the door and jump clear of the vehicle.

When winds reach 30 miles per hour with wind gusts over 50 miles per hour, they have the potential to bring down trees, power lines and signs, and can turn unsecured objects into dangerous projectiles.

## If You are Caught Outside During High Winds

- Take cover next to a building or under a secure shelter.
- Stand clear of roadways or train tracks, as a gust may blow you into the path of an oncoming vehicle.
- Use handrails where available, and avoid elevated areas such as roofs.
- Watch for flying debris. Tree limbs may break and street signs may come loose during strong winds.

High winds can create dust storms in areas where farming is widespread. Some of these storms may be miles long and several thousand feet high. Dust storms contain dust and debris greatly reducing visibility and making it difficult to breathe as well as creating hazardous driving conditions.

*(This brochure has been adapted from material provided by the Doña Ana County, New Mexico LEPC.)*

## Contact Us

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