



## White River Valley Electric Cooperative News Release

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**For immediate release: July 14, 2016**

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### **White River Valley Electric Cooperative urges electrical safety for Pokemon Go players**

**Branson, Missouri** – White River Valley Electric Cooperative warns players of the augmented reality game *Pokémon Go* to stay away from power lines, transformers, and substations when playing the game.

WRVEC encourages users to exercise extreme caution when playing this new global phenomenon. The reality game is drawing players into some dangerous situations. Electric utilities cannot control where the *Pokémon* appear, making it important for players to make sure they catch their *Pokémon* from a safe distance.

The game allows players to train, battle, and capture *Pokémon* through “geocaching,” during which players use their phones to hunt the characters hiding in the real world. Online threads are reporting the “electric” type *Pokémon* can be found near electrical sites.

WRVEC encourages parents of children who play the game to talk to them about how to be safe around electricity.

Important safety tips:

- Stay away from power lines, transformers, substations, and electrical work sites.
- Never jump on, sit on, kick, or stick anything inside a transformer, including padmount transformers.
- Do not climb power poles or throw things into power lines.
- Stay away from power lines that have fallen because they can still be energized.
- Power lines near trees also pose a danger; exercise caution and check for power lines before climbing a tree.

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[White River Valley Electric Cooperative](#) is a [Touchstone Energy Cooperative](#) dedicated to ensuring our members receive safe and reliable service in their homes and businesses across five southwest Missouri counties including Ozark, Taney, Stone, Christian and Douglas.