



Greg Fisher, left, and Jerad Taylor exemplify the cooperative spirit.

## Navarro County EC Employees Earn Lifesaving Award

**THE TEXAS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES LOSS CONTROL** Program's Lifesaving Award recognizes employees who perform a heroic rescue and is one of the highest honors an employee can receive. Two of Navarro County Electric Cooperative's employees received this award for their actions in 2014.

Greg Fisher and Jerad Taylor were on weekend call duty in early February 2014. On February 2, Fisher received a trouble call that one of the substation circuits from Rocket 1203 was locked out. This call was at approximately 1:30 a.m. After picking up his duty partner, Taylor, they went to the address they were given for the trouble call and then to Rocket substation.

After patrolling the circuit and restoring service to the members, they were on their way home about 3:50 a.m. when they came upon a single-vehicle accident. A Ford Mustang was upside-down in a ditch. The men stopped to see if they could help, and they found two injured occupants. The driver had head injuries and cuts and was sitting beside another person who was trapped under the vehicle. The vehicle had rolled over onto the woman's legs.

When Fisher and Taylor arrived, 911 had not yet been called. Fisher was on the radio with NCEC General Manager/CEO Billy Jones when they pulled up to this scene. Jones called the sheriff's department to report the accident.

Fisher asked if they could use the bucket truck to try to lift the vehicle off the woman's legs. "Do whatever you need to do to help," Jones said.

Taylor got in the bucket and positioned the boom and winch over the rear of the car. There Fisher had placed some slings to lift the vehicle up enough to pull the woman out.

At this time of the morning, it was about 35 degrees with the wind blowing about 30 mph, and the wind chill was in the low 20s. Taylor noticed the woman was shivering, so he took off his jacket and covered her. Both employees stayed with her and the driver until the sheriff's department arrived.

Taylor let the young woman keep his jacket; it had soaked up a lot of blood from her injuries. He said he and Fisher remembered the safety meeting they'd had the Monday before this accident. The meeting was about blood-borne pathogens, so they were careful to keep themselves safe and help both injured victims.

After the sheriff's officers took all the information they needed from Fisher and Taylor and thanked them for stopping and helping the way they did, they allowed the Samaritans to leave the scene.

Fisher and Taylor did not hesitate to stop and help when they were called upon in this situation, and that is just the cooperative way. If they had not been on this trouble call at the time, there is no way to know how long the young woman would have been pinned, bleeding under the vehicle, so we thank Greg and Jerad for possibly saving a life on that cold and windy morning.

Please take a moment and visit our website, [navarroec.com](http://navarroec.com), to watch the video of our two heroic employees and their lifesaving story.