CURRENT FLASHES

CEDAR-KNOX PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

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cedarknoxppd.com

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FROM THE DESK OF THE MANAGER: PREPAREDNESS REMINDER FROM CEDAR-KNOX

Following the March 19th ice storm that unfortunately affected our neighbors in Nebraska to the south and east, I feel it's important to remind our customers of the need to be prepared for events like these. With little to no advance warning of major ice or storm conditions, many people found themselves without power for several days—some for nearly a week.

Many of us take for granted that the lights will always turn on with the flip of a switch or that heat will always be available in our homes. But when Mother Nature strikes, no matter how much we prepare or work to prevent outages, they can still occur. Storms of a large magnitude can leave behind significant destruction in the blink of an eye, in any season; winter, spring, summer or fall.

I encourage you to take a moment and ask yourself: What if? Do you have a plan for how you would manage without power? Most of us don't often consider scenarios like having no heating or cooling, no refrigeration, no hot water, no lights, no way to charge electronic devices, no way to cook, and in some cases, no access to water. These are all essential elements for daily life—and survival—that we often take for granted.

While small generators have become more affordable in recent years, not everyone can purchase one or access one once an outage occurs. Generators can be a great backup option, but they also come with safety considerations. They must be properly installed—

NOTICE: FEE CHANGES

At the March Board Meeting, updates were made to the charges and fees associated with late payments. The revised charges and fees listed below will take effect on <u>June 1st</u>.

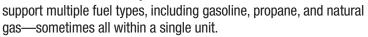
Late Payment Charge 5% of balance due or \$10,

whichever is greater

Reconnect Fee \$50 Reconnect Fee After Hours \$100 Failed Payment Fee \$15

As a reminder, if you're unable to pay your bill by the due date, please contact us. We're happy to provide an extension on your account to prevent disconnection; however, this will not exempt you from the late fees. Thank you for your attention to these updates. If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact us.

preferably by a licensed electrician—to ensure safe operation. They should also be tested periodically to make sure they are operational when needed, and you should have a reliable fuel source on hand. Today's models often



Fortunately, we live in Nebraska, where neighbors and communities often come together to help each other out in times of need. That said, helping others can sometimes be limited by road conditions or accessibility. While we were fortunate not to be impacted this time, as many of you know, it's not the first time a storm like this has happened—and it won't be the last.

At Cedar-Knox, we remain committed to doing our best to maintain reliable service, but certain risks are always present. Please consider the following points as part of your own emergency preparedness planning, and take a moment to ask yourself: What if?

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST:

- If I lose heat or A/C, what are my backup options?
- Water: One gallon per person, per day (for at least several days), for drinking and sanitation
- Food: A supply of non-perishable food for at least several days, including medications
- Backup life support (example: oxygen)
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio, and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert
- Flashlight
- First aid kit
- Extra batteries or charging devices for electronics
- A designated place to take shelter

SUMMER HOURS

Summer Hours will begin May 27th and will run until Labor Day. Crew and Office Hours for the summer are **7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

If you have an outage or emergency after business hours, be sure to call 402,254,6291 or 1,800,891,5196.

You must dial one of these numbers to reach our linemen on call or to leave a message for the billing department.

Thank you!



SUMMER CO-OP INTERNS

Our summer Co-op interns this year are Kale Korth and Jace Foxhoven. Jace is the son of Dale and Nancy Foxhoven of Crofton, NE and Kale is the son of

Terry and Lisa Korth of Hartington, NE. Both interns are currently between their first and second year of the Utility Linemen Program at Northeast Community College. This summer, Jace and Kale will be interning with us and will return to complete the program in the fall. We are excited to have them on board. Welcome, Jace and Kale!



SCHOLARSHIP

Cedar-Knox PPD is pleased to announce that Jace Foxhoven has been awarded the Memorial

Scholarship for his final year of the Utility Lineman Program at Northeast Community College. Jace will complete his summer internship with us and then proceed to his final year of lineman school starting this fall. Congratulations, Jace! We wish you the best of luck as you complete the final year of your program.



LIVE DEMONSTRATIONS

Students in 5th grade from across our District had the unique opportunity to attend an engaging and informative presentation on electricity. Our employees, Matt Sudbeck and Dustin Neuhalfen, covered a wide range of topics throughout the presentations to include the basics of how electricity works, background of the industry, and the safety precautions we must take around electricity. Students were fascinated by the live demonstrations and enjoyed the interactive segment of trying out the equipment and tools linemen use in their everyday jobs.











EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARY

We are excited to celebrate **Dusty Nuehalfen's** 20-year anniversary with Cedar-Knox PPD! Since joining in 2005, Dusty has been a part of our team, contributing to our growth and success. As a Journeyman Lineman, Dusty drives one of our bucket trucks on the crew and this year has helped with the 5th grade electrical safety demonstration. We appreciate Dusty's innovative thinking and hard work. **Congratulations Dusty!**

