

CURRENT FLASHES

Cedar-Knox Public Power District • P.O. Box 947 • Hartington, NE 68739

Phone: 402-254-6291 or 800-891-5196

cedarknoxppd.com

October 2021

Volume 21, Number 9

Safety On The Line

Electrical utility work is vital to everyday life. It may not get a lot of attention until there is a power outage, but it is a prevalent part of home, work, economic, and leisure activities. Those in the industry know the importance of electrical and workplace safety. Many work very closely with electricity – putting their lives on the line.

Accidents unfortunately do occur, and they can have deadly and tragic consequences that extend far beyond the job site. A climate of safety must be created in the workplace in order to help prevent such accidents. Increasing electrical safety awareness and knowledge are critical steps, but technical information alone is often too faceless and distant to affect attitudes toward safety. One's mindset is a big part of being safe on the job. Even if you've been doing the work for years, getting reinvigorated about safety helps keep life-saving mindsets, procedures, and

technologies in the forefront – giving them the importance they are due.

At Cedar-Knox PPD, our motto is “Never Give Safety a Day Off”. We all want everyone to be safe and return daily to our loved ones. CKPPD employees take part in monthly safety meetings and discuss potential issues to gather insight for the future. Individuals from the JT&S (Job Training & Safety) visit our site regularly to analyze real life stories of peers. This helps to reiterate alternative actions or troubleshooting tactics.

During the September 2021 Safety Meeting, the topic of Pole Top Rescue was reviewed (see right). This is when a line worker climbs a pole and secures and lowers a dummy to the ground. CKPPD Linemen take part in this annual training to stay current on these procedures in case they should ever be needed on the job which we certainly hope is never the case.



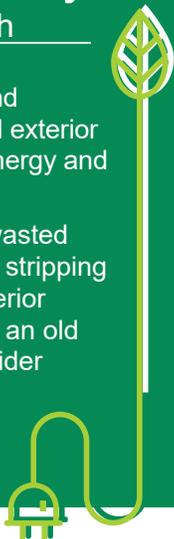
Pictured: Dustin Neuhalfen practicing a pole top rescue drill

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Old, uninsulated and improperly installed exterior doors can waste energy and money.

Shut the door on wasted energy by weather stripping and sealing all exterior doors. If you have an old exterior door, consider replacing it with a newer, energy efficient model.

Source: www.energy.gov



OCTOBER IS PUBLIC POWER MONTH

Critical Accounts

Cedar-Knox Public Power maintains a list of our customers that require life support at their service. If you or someone in your household depends on an electric-powered life support system, we want to know. If a planned outage occurs, we will be aware and make every effort to notify you in advance. Sometimes a storm, an accident, or equipment failure, which Cedar-Knox PPD has no control over, will cause your power to be out. We will do everything we can to restore power as quickly as possible. To avoid a crisis, we suggest you do some advanced planning:

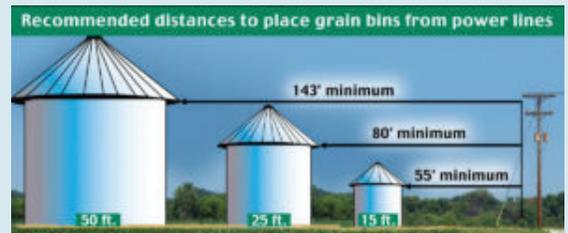
1. Talk to your medical provider about a power outage plan for medical devices powered by electricity (such as a battery powered backup system)
2. Make plans to stay at an alternative location
3. Install a double throw transfer switch so you can use a standby generator

Cedar-Knox PPD cares about our customers and your well-being. We know being without electricity is an inconvenience, but we certainly don't want it to turn into a crisis. To be put on the critical account list, please send a physician's note to our office at CKPPD, P.O. Box 947, Hartington, NE 68739. You may also fax the note to (402) 254-6991 or drop it by the office.

Clearances

During this fall harvest we ask that you "look up & look out for overhead power lines". Overhead high voltage lines can cause serious damage to equipment and can be fatal to humans. Farm equipment has gotten bigger over the years which can increase the chances of a contact. Perhaps you are now considering installing a new grain bin or making changes to areas that contain existing ones. Please be sure that proximity to overhead power lines is considered.

We build lines to meet proper clearances, but clearances can be altered without us knowing due to: new driveways being installed, compromised anchoring of poles, or even leaning poles, etc. If you notice or are concerned with low hanging wires or possible clearance issues, contact CKPPD to make sure the site is safe.





ELECTRICAL SAFETY TIPS FOR HUNTERS

This hunting season, we encourage all members to be aware of electrical equipment and take necessary precautions while hunting. Keep these safety tips in mind as you enjoy the great outdoors.



Take notice of posted warning signs and keep clear of electrical equipment.



Do not shoot at or near power lines or insulators.



Know where power lines and equipment are located on the land where you hunt.



Be especially careful in wooded areas where power lines may not be as visible.



Do not place deer stands on utility poles or climb poles. Energized lines and equipment can conduct electricity to anyone who comes in contact with them, causing shock or electrocution.



Do not place decoys on power lines or other utility equipment. Any non-electrical equipment attached to a pole can pose an obstruction and serious hazards to our line crews.

Cedar Knox Public Power District Employees

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rich Erwin **President**
Terry Thunker **Vice President**
Randy Papenhausen **Secretary**
Randy Carlson **Treasurer**
Larry Domina
Ken Eickhoff
Karl Koch
Ed Lammers
Phil Nielsen

EMPLOYEES

Mike Lammers **General Manager**
Mary Lammers **Office Manager**
Patrick Feilmeier **Line Superintendent**
Jackie Kathol **Accountant**
Pam Heikes **Billing Specialist**
Lynette Pinkelman **Benefits Adm**
Stacy Knutson **Receptionist**
Tim Loberg **Operations Coordinator**
Mark Kuehn **IT and Security Director**
Matt Sudbeck **Purchasing/Safety Director**
Reggie Hochstein **Electrical Systems Director**
Corey Fischer **Line Engineer**
Corey Stratman **Line Engineer**
Doug Miller **Crew Foreman**
Tom Potts **Crew Foreman**
Troy Joachimsen **Crew Foreman**
Brad Steffen **Lead Line Technician**
Eric Becker **Lead Line Technician**
John Freeman **Meter Tech/Journeyman**
Forrest Dendinger **Substation Tech/Journeyman**
Nathan Rutar **Journeyman Lineman**
Dustin Neuhalfen **Journeyman Lineman**
Jeff Feilmeier **Journeyman Lineman**
Jared Wiebelhaus **Apprentice Lineman**
Chase Dettman **Apprentice Lineman**
Zach Adcock **Apprentice Lineman**
Ed Kalin **Mechanic**

