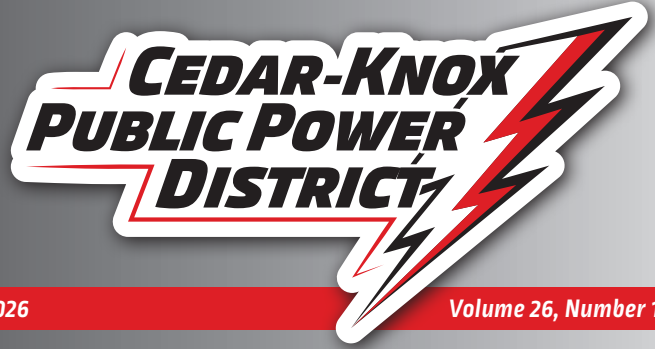


CURRENT FLASHES

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OCTOBER IS PUBLIC POWER MONTH

When you flip a switch, you expect the light to turn on; however, it does more than just light a room. It powers the dreams of a teenager studying for a test, the community gathering to support one another, and the critical processes that keep the local economy running. This is the heart of public power and the energy that continues to fuel Nebraska.

Yet, this seamless access to electricity was once a distant reality for many Nebraskans. During the early 20th century, many rural areas of Nebraska lacked access to electricity from private utilities, prompting the state to establish a public power system to serve all communities. In the 1930s, the Nebraska legislature passed legislation allowing the creation of public power districts, such as Cedar-Knox Public Power to bring electric service to rural areas not served by private utilities. Public power districts deliver more than electricity; they add significant value to the quality of life within the communities they serve. Now, Nebraska is the only state in the country with a fully public power system.

Unlike investor-owned utilities, public power is owned and operated by public entities, including cooperatives, public power districts, and municipalities. Public power operates on a not-for-profit basis, allowing utilities to reinvest revenue in the electric system. Since public power is operated by public entities, it allows for local control that fits the community's needs.

Public power provides great value to the community, and we take pride in serving as your public power provider. This October, we celebrate Public Power Month and the value of local people, local decisions, and local power in the communities we serve.



Local People.

Public power begins with people. Cedar-Knox PPD recognizes the importance of service and being active in our local communities. Our employees and board members live and work throughout the area, providing a thorough understanding of the needs of those we serve. Having local people serve allows us to directly connect with our customers and learn about their needs.

Local Decisions.

Public power is built on local people making decisions that benefit the local community. Since PPDs are publicly owned and governed by locally elected board members, PPDs prioritize community and district needs over shareholder profits. This structure ensures our customers have a direct voice in how the utility operates and plans for the future.

Local power.

Public power districts operate for the benefit of their customers, making every investment a direct contribution to service quality and the long-term prosperity of our community. Cedar-Knox PPD continually invests in infrastructure, including substations, power lines, poles, transformers, and technology, to ensure safe and dependable electric service. These investments help maintain reliability today while preparing for the future needs of our homes, farms, businesses, and industries.

This Public Power Month, we celebrate the importance of public power and the value of keeping it local. From the lights in our homes to the critical infrastructure that drives our local economy, public power is the steady and reliable source for our communities.

Thank you for trusting us to power what matters most to you.

IMPORTANT: METER CHANGE NOTICE

A contractor, **Second Sight Systems**, hired by our meter software vendor, will begin replacing certain meters due to a component recall issue beginning late October/early November. **The issue does not affect meter accuracy, billing data, or your account.** This replacement is a preventive measure to ensure continued reliable service. No action is required on your part other than providing access to the meter if needed. Second Sight Systems will be in white vehicles and have their logo visible. They will attempt to notify you of the brief interruption in service before the meter change out. We apologize for the inconvenience - if you have questions, please contact our office by calling (402) 254-6291.



**HAVE A SAFE AND
HAPPY HALLOWEEN!**

STORM RECAP

Cedar-Knox PPD would like to take this opportunity to thank all our customers for their patience following the wind storm that hit our district on September 1st. This storm initially affected over 4000 meters – almost half of our district! The storm primarily hit the Northern part of our service area with extensive wind and tree damage in Crofton. While we definitely do not like to see any destruction to our neighbors and friends, we all should be proud of the recovery. We witnessed many instances of neighbors helping neighbors and even had neighboring systems come in with mutual aid and assist with repairs. A crew from Nebraska Public Power District and a crew for North Central Public Power District worked alongside the CKPPD crews in restoration efforts. We would like to thank everyone who helped in any way. CKPPD hasn't had a large-scale outage in a while, so just a few reminders for everyone:

- Please report any outages by calling (402) 254-6291 or (800) 891-5196. Call this number 24/7 – if after hours it is routed to the afterhours phone system – press 1 for outage or emergency. The information you give helps to pinpoint issues. If all lines are busy or your call is not answered, be patient and try your call again a little later.
- Report the outage even if you think others have called. This outage was widespread, but that is not always the case.
- Don't report the outage via social media, email, or direct phone calls to employees. Social media and emails are not always checked on a timely basis and direct phone calls can be a distraction to employees working in dangerous situations.
- Stay away – stay alive! Downed powerlines should always be considered energized, so stay clear until trained professionals can access the situation.
- Appreciation is appreciated! Our employees love to hear the positive feedback on Facebook, notes in the mail, and phone calls after the outage event is over. Linework is hard work, sometimes in very adverse conditions.
- Patience is key. Some restoration projects take more time than others. A few repairs also require planned outages or the customer to have an electrician make individual repairs. That being said, please update your contact information with us so that we are able to contact you, if needed.



Photo by Janet Lammers

HURT MAN RESCUE

CKPPD linemen recently practiced hurt man rescue at their monthly safety meeting. Pole-top and bucket truck rescues require focus, speed, and teamwork. Annual training ensures that crews can respond quickly, protect themselves, and bring their coworkers safely to the ground if ever needed in an emergency. While we hope this is a skill that is never needed to be used, being prepared is key.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

Don't let phantom energy haunt your electric bill this October. Many electronics continue using electricity even when they're turned off. TVs, gaming systems, coffee makers and phone chargers can quietly draw power around the clock. While each device uses only a small amount, the energy waste can add up over time. Before heading out for Halloween fun, unplug devices you don't use regularly or plug them into a smart power strip that automatically cuts power when equipment is off. It's a simple trick that can help keep phantom energy waste in check.

Source: Dept. of Energy

