

# CURRENT FLASHES

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

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## Heads Up for Farm Safety

To help create awareness and keep our customers safe around electrical lines this harvest season and anytime of the year, Cedar-Knox PPD is giving out removable window decals to place in your equipment (combine, tractor, truck, etc.). These window clings (see below) have the reminder to remain alert around electrical lines and instructions on what to do if you have an accident involving a power line. The window decals are available at many local Ag businesses throughout our District and at our office in Hartington. We hope you take a moment to familiarize yourself with where all electrical lines are around you so that you can keep at a safe working distance. As the CKPPD safety motto states, **Never Give Safety a Day Off!**



## CKPPD Gathers Data for GIS

Cedar-Knox PPD is continuing to gather Geographic Information System (GIS) data throughout our service territory. This involves capturing the Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates for all CKPPD structures including poles, lights, meters, transformers, and underground wires. We are also re-numbering our structures with a five digit number that will help identify where these structures are. Currently all of Knox County has been renumbered, excluding the towns, and half of Cedar County is complete. We will be continuing to obtain this information for the rest of Cedar County and all of the towns in the upcoming months, so if you see our personnel in your yards or around the equipment, this is what they are doing.

Please use these numbers (pictured to the right) when calling in for maintenance on your lights, or other service call ticket items. This number allows for the office personnel and servicemen to use any electronic device to view where the location is, and what equipment is at that location to make the necessary repairs. Thank you.



## ALERT TODAY, ALIVE TOMORROW: HEADS UP FOR FARM SAFETY

Stay safe around downed power lines. Consider all lines, equipment and conductors to be live and dangerous.



If you must exit the machinery...

If you can safely drive away...

If you are inside farm machinery that makes contact with a downed power line, know what to do!

If you can drive safely away from the power source without bringing down the utility pole and lines, travel at least 40 ft. before exiting.

If you are unable to drive the machinery due to injury, obstacles or it is inoperable, do NOT exit. Call for help and warn anyone nearby NOT to approach.

40 ft. radius safe distance

If the vehicle is on fire, or you must exit for other safety reasons, follow these steps:

1. Jump clear of the vehicle. Do not let any part of your body or clothes touch the ground and the machinery at the same time.
2. Land with feet together and hop away in small steps to minimize the path of electric current and avoid electric shock.
3. Keep going until you are at least 40 ft. away.
4. Call for help. Make sure no one gets within 40 ft. of the downed line.
5. Do not re-enter the area or vehicle until emergency responders and your electric co-op crews determine it is safe.

# Youth Energy Leadership Camp

The 2019 Youth Energy Leadership Camp was held July 8-12 at the 4-H Camp in the Nebraska National Forest at Halsey. Cedar-Knox Public Power sponsored Nolan Ohlrich, Belden; Myles Thoene, Tate Thoene, and Keanna Korth, all of Hartington. Dagen Joachimsen, Hartington attended through a scholarship offered by WIRE (Women in Rural Electrification).

Tim Loberg, Purchasing and Safety Director attended as a camp counselor. The five day camp presents interesting workshops, demonstrations and presentations addressing many of the issues affecting the rural electric program and the many job opportunities in the electrical industry. A highlight is always the tour to the Gerald Gentleman Power Station and the Kingsley Hydro-Electric Power plant to look at



Left to right – Nolan Ohlrich, Dagen Joachimsen, Tate Thoene, Tim Loberg, Myles Thoene, Keanna Korth.

the process of generating electricity. There is plenty of social fun during the camp also, with canoeing, sports tournaments, a dance, and more. If you are a current 9th, 10th, or 11th grader and you live in the Cedar-Knox PPD service territory, please consider attending this camp next summer. Information regarding next summer's camp will be released in the spring.

## October is Public Power Month

Most people don't think about where their power comes from...just that it is there when they flip on a light switch. October is Public Power Month and as your local publicly owned electric utility, we encourage you to celebrate public power. As a locally controlled electric provider, our employees and Board of Directors are your friends and neighbors and have a deep commitment to our communities. When we make decisions that affect rate payers and the community, we made these decisions with you in mind, as we live, work, and play here too.

### Notice:

Starting Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, office and crew hours will return to 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

## Cedar Knox Public Power District Employees

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 Nathan Rutar..... Journeyman Lineman  
 John Freeman..... Meter Tech/Journeyman  
 Dustin Neuhalfen..... Journeyman Lineman  
 Brian Kruse..... Journeyman Lineman  
 Jeff Feilmeier..... Journeyman Lineman  
 Jared Wiebelhaus..... Apprentice Lineman  
 Ed Kalin..... Mechanic

## CONGRATULATIONS

Mark Kuehn, Information Technology (IT) and Security Director recently completed the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Rural Cooperative Cybersecurity Capabilities (RC3) Program thru the SANS Institute. The program was created to help cooperatives across the country gain access to top-of-the-line cybersecurity training. The class provided books, online lectures, and hands-on lab experiences to help Mark apply the course material to improve CKPPD's cybersecurity. Cyber risks are continually changing so understanding these threats and vulnerabilities and equipping cooperative employees with the necessary training and education to face these challenges is invaluable. Congratulations Mark on completing this course and earning this certification!



Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts recently made a stop at Michael Foods near Bloomfield. For the third straight year, Nebraska won the Governor's Cup for having the most economic development projects per capita in the nation. Michael Food's investment of \$150 million in the Bloomfield plant helped contribute to Nebraska's success in winning the prestigious award.

Left to right – David Morton, V.P. of Farms, Michael Foods and Governor Pete Ricketts.