

CURRENT FLASHES

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

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cedarknoxppd.com

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From the Desk of the Manager

Construction Continues at CKPPD



Mike Lammers

While we are all still dealing with the effects of Covid-19 and trying to keep safety a priority as always, we have managed so far to remain healthy. Our line crews have been out successfully working hard at our 2020 budget workplan. This year's line construction work plan contained the normal amount of work load with a multitude of major projects to help improve reliability to our customers.



The largest of projects was the new 69KV line being constructed (pictured left) north of Hartington, between our Fordyce and Bow Valley Substations and will replace the outdated line that runs in private right of way across the 4-mile stretch. Another large upgrade project (pictured below right) was completed recently in the northern Cedar County area near Heine Cattle Company. This nearly 2.5-mile distribution line upgrade feeds power to part of the town of St. Helena and areas north and west of there.

If the weather cooperates and storms stay away, we will likely begin a three-phase upgrade project going south of the Rollings Hills Golf Course this fall that is also part of the 2020 work plan. These large projects are only part of the upgrades being done, however in all these cases will provide alterna-

tive source lines to reduce outages, produce better power quality with improved voltage support, allow for better accessibility, and yield the potential for any future load growth in those areas. While times have been a bit different to say the least, our crew and staff have continued to strive forward on our work plan to maintain the same great service and reliability we are always trying to achieve.



October is Public Power Month

Nebraska is fortunate to be the only state in the U.S. where every single home and business is served by publicly owned utilities such as municipalities, cooperatives, or public power districts. Public Power is:

Affordable & Reliable – Low electric rates benefit all Nebraskans. Electricity is one of the few great bargains left. The average homeowner can meet all of their electric needs for about \$3.45 per day, with rates well below the national average.

Environmentally Friendly – Nebraskan's enjoy a 65 percent carbon-free footprint with wind, solar, hydro-electric and nuclear energy; being good stewards of the environment.

Not-For-Profit – Local Public Power utilities are owned and operated by the people they serve. No stockholders, just neighbors elected locally serving you in open meetings.

Public Power in Nebraska has always delivered on the goals of safe, affordable, and reliable power. We look forward to continuing to serve you in this manner in the future.

National Farm Safety & Health Week

Each year since 1944, the third week of September has been recognized as National Farm Safety & Health Week. This



recognition has been an annual promotion initiated by the National Safety Council and has been proclaimed as such by each sitting U.S. President since Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the first document.

RURAL VOTES



COUNT



Make your voice count

Remember to vote this election year.

NOVEMBER 3RD, 2020

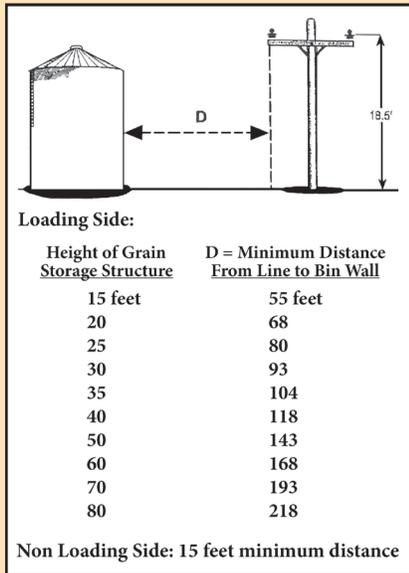


Grain Bins and Overhead Power Lines

Proper placement of grain bins in relation to existing high voltage power lines is extremely important. Planning for adequate clearances can reduce the risk of accidental contact between power lines and tall farm equipment such as portable grain augers and elevators.

In addition to safety considerations, there are also requirements for power line clearances which are mandated by national wiring codes (see picture). A bin placed too close to a power line may need to be moved, or the power line relocated, due to a code violation. These changes are likely to be expensive, and may be charged to the bin owner. Talk with us before the bin site is confirmed.

When adding new bin load to your existing service, you will also want to contact us, so that we can be sure the service is sized adequately at maximum loading period with your addition. Electrical equipment will fail if the service is not adequately sized. Please call us at 402-254-6291 or 800-891-5196 to discuss any changes you may wish to make.



MAKE TIME FOR SAFETY

AVOID HAZARDS WITH OVERHEAD POWER LINES

Fall harvest is the most likely time of year for farm-related accidents and fatalities. The number one factor in electrocution on the farm is an auger that hits a power line when being moved. Be aware of your surroundings and look up often.

Safe Electricity offers the following harvest safety tips:

1. Check the height of the farm equipment to determine clearance.
2. Be aware of the location of power poles and lines, including field entry and exit points, and plan a safe equipment route.
3. Always keep a minimum 10-foot safety radius around an electric line.
4. Use a spotter when moving tall loads near electrical lines.
5. Lower extensions to the lowest setting when moving equipment.
6. Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance.
7. Know what to do if your equipment does make contact with a power line. It's almost always safest staying in the cab. Call 9-1-1, warn others to stay away, and wait until the electric utility says it's safe to get down.

Learn more at:



NEVER GIVE SAFETY A DAY OFF

Fun Facts:

- More than 35 million pounds of candy corn are sold annually
- 90% of parents admit to sneaking goodies from their kids
- 50% of Americans decorate their yards for Halloween
- Nearly 120 million Americans (children and adults) dress up in costumes



Safety Tips:

- Make sure all masks, costumes and shoes are well fitting
- Examine all treats before consumption by kids
- Wear reflective tape or use glow sticks for more visibility
- Never enter a stranger's home



Safety Statistics:

- 63% of kids do not carry a flashlight while they are trick-or-treating
- Children are more than twice as likely to be hit by a car on Halloween
- In 2018, there were 4,500 estimated Halloween-related injuries:
 - 44% were related to pumpkin carving activities
 - 25% due to falls while putting up/taking down decorations, tripping on costumes, or walking while trick-or-treating
 - 27% included lacerations, ingestions, and costume, pumpkin or decoration-related injuries
 - 4% due to allergic reactions or rashes



Halloween is a fun-filled night for kids and adults. With dark costumes and poor visibility due to masks, it can be difficult for drivers to see trick or treaters or trick or treaters to see cars, so please slow down and use caution.

Statistics from: Consumer Product Safety Commission, US Census Bureau, National Confectioners Association, and protectamerica.com.