

September 2022

PLUGGED IN WITH. Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association

Downed Lines 2
6 Steps 3
Notice 4
Load Management 4

Cover Story

PREMA



ROARIN' THROUGH 2022

HERITAGE DAYS PARADE



Alliance Jouneyman Lineman, DJ Weare, drove a 2021 F550 Altec Squirt Boom. These F550 bucket trucks are PREMA's work horses in the fleet. They allow the lineman to work structures that are 45ft. tall, access tight places and traverse rough, sandy terrain. The side by side, which was driven by our general manager Ryan Reiber and accompanied by his daughter Lindsay, is another valuable asset to the fleet. With the capability to install tracks in place of tires, we often use this machine during snowstorms with larger amounts of snow to navigate places where our heavier equipment may struggle getting around and to patrol line in the delicate soil of the sandhills.



A variety of conditions or scenarios can result in a downed power line. Sometimes downed lines are visible while other times they are hidden by ice, snow, branches or storm debris.

Collisions with a pole or padmount transformer can cause the ground and objects to become energized. Regardless of the cause, always consider a downed line or damaged equipment energized and deadly.

If you are in a vehicle or farm implement accident involving a downed line, stay in the cab and wait until someone from the electric utility says it is safe to get out.

Call 9-1-1 to report a downed or damaged power line. Stay away and alert others to do the same.

Remember, if there is a downed line, stay away! Electricity can jump from a wire or object to you to find the quickest path to ground.

If you see a downed or damaged power line or pole:

- Do not go near it.
- Do not touch it.
- Do not try to move it with another object.
- Do not touch items that could be energized.



Get your home ready for cooler weather

Heating season will be here before you know it. Here are six ways to keep your energy use—and your utility bills—in check as the weather gets cooler.

- Check for gaps in your walls around windows, doors and holes in exterior walls where cords and cables enter the house. Cool air that leaks into the house through those gaps can compete with the warm air your heating system pumps. Keeping cool air outside where it belongs will mean your heating system doesn't have to work as hard to keep your family comfortable.
- Set the thermostat at 68 degrees. At bedtime and before everyone leaves the house for the day, dial it down between 7 and 10 degrees. Lowering the temperature by that amount for eight hours a day can save up to 10% on heating costs, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.
- Install a programmable thermostat. The easiest way to ensure that the thermostat rises and lowers depending on whether anyone is in the house is to program it ahead of time to automatically change temperatures.
- Reverse the direction that your ceiling fan blades spin. A clockwise movement pushes warm air back down into the room, which can make people in the room feel warmer.
- Replace or clean the filters in your heating and air conditioning systems. A clogged filter blocks air from flowing through, which makes your HVAC system work harder and use more energy.
- Make an appointment with an HVAC service to inspect your heating system and repair any problems before it gets really cold outside. Spending a little on maintenance now could head off a more costly problem later.

Notice

Capital Credit checks were mailed September 30, 2021, numerous checks have not been cashed. Please cash your check by September 15, 2022, as the uncashed checks will be voided on September 16, 2022. If you are unable to locate your uncashed check, please send a request for a check re-issue to Allison at billing@prema.coop or mail to P.O. Box 677, Alliance, NE 69301.



Notes From Load Management

All participants in Load Management can be controlled every day for the month of September. Groups will be controlled as needed. We do not anticipate control days to extend past September 15.

If you are an irrigator with PREMA and have not participated in Load Management in the past, information is available at www.prema.coop under the irrigation tab or by calling the office at 308-762-1311.



Serving Arthur, Box Butte, Cherry, Dawes, Garden, Grant, Hooker, McPherson, Morrill, Sheridan and Sioux Counties

PREMA

251 BRAYTON ROAD P.O. BOX 677 ALLIANCE, NE 69301-0677

MANAGEMENT

Ryan Reiber—General Manager

Boone Manion—Operations Manager

Dale Knapp—Staking Engineer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dale Berndt — Lakeside Michael Collins — Alliance Wayne Crawford — Alliance Marty Larsen — Whitman Bryan Monahan — Hyannis RD Sutphen — Lakeside Phil Zochol — Alliance

(308) 762-1311 or 800-585-4837 FAX—(308) 762-5750

