



April 2019

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Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association

Cover Story	1
Youth Energy Camp	2
Load Management	3
Energy Saving Tips	3
Statement of Non-Discrimination	4

PREMA

The Commitment of an Electric Lineworker

Lineworker Appreciation Day is April 8.

By Anne Prince

National studies consistently rank power line installers and repairers among the most dangerous jobs in the country, and for good reason. Laboring high in the air wearing heavy equipment and working directly with high voltage creates the perfect storm of a dangerous and unforgiving profession. But electric lineworkers are up to the task. These brave men and women are committed to safety, as well as the challenges of the job.

PREMA's lineworkers are responsible for keeping power flowing day and night, regardless of national holidays, vacations, birthdays, weddings or other important family milestones. Beyond the years of specialized training and apprenticeships, it takes internal fortitude and a mission-oriented outlook to be a good lineworker. In fact, this service-oriented mentality is a hallmark characteristic of lineworkers. The job requires lineworkers to set aside their personal priorities to better serve their local community.

Family Support System

To perform their jobs successfully, lineworkers depend on their years of training, experience and each other to get the job done safely.

Equally important is their reliance on a strong support system at home. A lineworker's family understands and supports their loved one's commitment to the greater community during severe storms and power outages.

This means in times of prolonged outages, the family and their lineworker may have minimal communication and not see each other for several days. Without strong family support and understanding, this challenging job would be all the more difficult.

Community Commitment

Across the country, electric co-op lineworkers' mission-focused mentality of helping others often extends beyond their commitment to their work at the co-op. Lineworkers are often familiar figures in the community. They can be found coaching youth sports teams, volunteering for local charities and serving on local advisory boards.

Thank You

Monday, April 8 is Lineworker Appreciation Day. Given the dedication of PREMA's lineworkers, both on and off the job, I encourage you to take a moment and acknowledge the many contributions they make to our local community. And if you see their family members in the grocery store or out and about in the town, please offer them a thank you as well.

NEBRASKA RURAL ELECTRIC YOUTH ENERGY LEADERSHIP CAMP

**Nebraska State 4-H Camp, Halsey, NE
July 8-12, 2019**

No, it's not just another camp



It's free, you are going to make life-long friends, and learn about the electric industry through interesting workshops, fascinating demonstrations and presentations by regional experts addressing the many issues affecting the rural electric program. There's also canoeing, sports, a banquet and a dance. A tour to the Gerald Gentleman Power Station and the Kingsley Hydro-Electric Power Plant provide for a first-hand look at the process of generating electricity.

Why Should I Apply?

You should apply if you have: Leadership potential, an awesome personality, a strong academic record or an interest in meeting new people. Also three campers will be selected to serve as Nebraska's Ambassadors to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Rural Electric Youth Tour in Washington, D.C.



To be eligible for this year's camp you must: currently be in the 9th, 10th or 11th grade, your parent or guardian is a member of PREMA and complete the application form below and return it to PREMA P.O. Box 677, Alliance, NE 69301

For more information contact PREMA at 308-762-1311, or visit www.prema.coop

**Registration
Deadline
May 3rd**

2019 Youth Energy Leadership Camp RSVP Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone number: (____) _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Name of Parent or guardian: _____

Notes From Load Management

The Load Management program is in place for the 2019 irrigation season. We have 400 accounts signed up to participate in Load Management; this is twenty accounts higher than 2018. We will be out installing load control switches at locations as needed. Letters will be sent to irrigators informing them what days their pivots could possibly be shut off. Active control periods are during PREMA's peak period which is daily from noon to 10:00 p.m. except Sundays and holidays.

Energy savings: think about it

Saving energy isn't difficult, but it's not automatic. You need to plan to buy energy-efficient appliances and to develop energy-wise lifestyle habits.

Here are 15 easy things to do around the house to save electricity and pare down your energy bill:

1. Adjust your thermostat. Even one or two degrees can add up to great savings.
2. While it's cold, keep blinds open in the daytime to allow heat in. Close them as it gets warmer.
3. Install a programmable thermostat to help you save energy while you work and sleep.
4. Wash your clothes in cold water and do only full loads.
5. Change your air filter to reduce the strain on your heating and cooling system.
6. For dinner, choose a meal you can cook in the microwave or a crock pot.
7. Don't preheat the oven unless making bread.
8. Keep your refrigerator full, but allow air to flow between items.
9. Examine windows and doors for air leaks. Repair damages or install weather-stripping to prevent heat loss.
10. Reduce the temperature on your water heater to 120 degrees to save money and prevent scalding.
11. Unplug second refrigerators or freezers if you can't keep them full. Otherwise, fill vacant space with water or ice.
12. Use your clothes dryer's moisture sensor cycle. This shuts it off when clothes are dry even if the cycle hasn't finished.
13. Turn off the drying function on your dishwasher and crack the door to allow dishes to air dry.
14. Shut off your computer if you will be gone for more than 20 minutes.
15. Unplug cell phones chargers, laptop batteries, and other small appliances when not in use.

Statement of Non-Discrimination

Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association (PREMA) is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov



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