

## MILESTONE REACHED

This spring, the 10,000th service was installed in the Elkhorn Rural Public Power District service territory.

That is quite a milestone from the first services that were energized over 80 years ago.

At the beginning, there were those that had their doubts that electricity could be brought to the rural areas because the farms were too far apart and it would cost too much.

On April 29, 1940, 148 services were energized and as one of the original board members, A. H. Dederman, was quoted as saying, "Well, we showed them [the naysayers] they were wrong."

It took 116 miles of distribution line to connect those first services. As of the end of April we have 2,874 miles of line serving 10,014 meters..

Eighty-two years later, it is interesting to look back at the hard work and dedication of those that came before to get us where we are today.

We also want to acknowledge our customers and the board of directors for your contribution to our great organization.

To commemorate this milestone, there will be an open house celebration on Tuesday, July 19, at the headquarters building in Battle Creek from 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. There will be a short program at 1:00 p.m. to mark the 10,000 meter milestone. We will also have the Ford Mustang Mach-E (pictured right) there to view and test drive.

All ERPPD customers are invited to attend.

Please visit our website and Facebook page for more information.

**Its a Celebration . . .  
and YOU are invited!**

**What:** 10,000 Meter Milestone  
**When:** Tuesday, July 19, Noon - 4:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Battle Creek Headquarters Building

There will be a short program at 1:00 p.m. to commemorate this historic milestone, as well as a food truck, swag, and the Mustang Mach E!



*Interested in an electric vehicle?  
Come out and see the Mustang Mach E on July 19, at the 10,000 Meter Milestone celebration.*

**FAST FACTS:**

- \* ERPPD started as Madison County PPD, but soon added another county - Antelope - and now has services in 8 different counties.
- \* The average electric consumption per customer in 1940 was 64 kWh. Eighty years later in 2020 it was 2,200 kWh per customer.



**ERPPD offices will be closed  
Monday July 4,  
in observance of Independence Day.  
Have a safe and fun 4th of July!**



Always assume a downed power line is energized. Downed lines can energize the ground up to 35 feet away.




In the wake of a summer thunderstorm or tornado there can be unseen hazards, such as energized downed power lines. For your safety it is important to know what to do *after* a storm comes through. Below are some tips for navigating safely after a storm:

- Never step into a flooded basement or other standing water. The water could be covering electrical outlets, appliances or cords. Never touch (or use) electrical appliances, cords, wires or switches while you are wet or standing in water.
- After a storm, a downed power line could be covered by standing water or debris. Never go near a downed line and warn others to stay away. If you see a downed line, call us at 800-675-2185, and a crew will be dispatched to de-energize the power and address the problem safely.
- The same safety know-how applies to a downed power line you might encounter while driving or after an auto accident. In either case, do not get out. Instead, call ERPPD to report the downed line. If you must exit your vehicle after an accident because of a fire or smoke, make a solid, clean jump out, landing with both feet together. Then hop or shuffle with your feet close

together as far away as you can.

- If your home has been damaged by a flood, turn off the power to your house if it is safe to do so. (Do not turn power off at the breaker box while standing in water or in damp conditions.)
- If the wiring, electrical system or appliances have been damaged by water, have your home inspected by an electrician; also, have appliances serviced by a qualified technician before using them.

Continued vigilance after a storm can help keep you and your family safe.



... to all our customers that participated in the customer satisfaction survey. Your input helps us to plan and serve you better. We will share the results of the survey in a future edition of the *Wire*, so stay tuned!

## ENERGY SAVINGS

### INDUCTION COOKING

Looking to beat the heat this summer? An induction cooktop or range might be a good investment to consider.

Induction cooking is one of the most efficient ways to prepare food. By generating an electromagnetic field below the glass surface, energy is transferred directly to the cookware on top. Unlike traditional electric or gas cooktops and stovetops, no flame or burner is necessary. That means there is less excess heat radiating out into your kitchen, keeping it and you cooler during the summer heat.

There are several advantages to induction cooking, including:

**Safety** – Perhaps one of the most important attributes induction cooking brings is safety. No flames. No extremely hot burners or coils. Most induction cooktops and ranges sense when a pot or pan is on top of them. Auto shut-off features eliminate the chance of “accidentally” leaving the cooking zone on. Others offer additional safety features such as child safety locks, automatic adjustment as food heats up, boil over protection and residual heat indicators. Some can even be controlled from a smart phone.

**Power Through Efficiency** – As much as 84% of the energy delivered through the cooking zone is transferred into the food. The Department of Energy finds that around 40 percent of a burner’s heat is transferred using gas. Induction ranges can boil two quarts of tap water in less than five minutes. A gas stove will take more than eight minutes and an electric range with coils will take nearly 10 minutes.

**Easier Clean Up**– Induction cooktops and ranges are simple to clean because their flat glass or ceramic surfaces have no gaps or grills to collect spilled food. Since cooking zones can only become as hot as the pan, spilled food seldom becomes baked on the enamel. When spills are caught right away, you can simply pick up the pan, swipe the cooking zone with a damp dish cloth and return the pan to the cooktop for no delay in cooking.

**Control** – Changes in temperature setting occur pre-



cisely and immediately. Traditional burners take time to cool down or heat up, and you must continually adjust the setting to achieve the perfect simmer or sauté. With induction, the perfect cooking level is achieved almost instantly with one setting change. Because of how previously-mentioned eddy currents create heat, the entire pot or pan heats in an even, uniform pattern when centered over the cooking zone. You do not have to rotate food around the pan to achieve cooking consistency.

Through the EnergyWise program you can earn a 20% incentive when you purchase a qualifying induction cooktop or range.

To be eligible for the incentive the induction cooktop or range must be

- 30 inch minimum width
- brand new and purchased on or after January 1, 2022.

For more information on this or other incentives for energy savings visit [www.erppd.com](http://www.erppd.com) or call 402-675-2185 and speak with Brian Suckstorf.

# UNIQUELY NEBRASKAN, UNUSUALLY PROUD



*Pictured above is Nicole Konert, ERPPD customer who won the Uniquely Nebraskan, Unusually Proud drawing. She chose a day pass to the Henry Doorly Zoo as her prize. See the ERPPD Facebook page or visit [www.publicpowered.com](http://www.publicpowered.com) for more information.*

ERPPD, in conjunction with NPPD our wholesale power supplier, is participating in a social media campaign to promote public power.

“What Uniquely Nebraskan person, place or thing do you love most?” Commenting and sharing your answer on Facebook enters you for a chance to win!

ERPPD customer Nicole Konert pictured left did just that. Her comment was, “Love our public power people”. She was then selected out of all the entries to win a uniquely Nebraskan prize such as a “buy Nebraskan” shopping experience; bed & breakfast accommodations to visit Ashfall Fossil Beds; one night stay on the River Boat in historic Brownville; float trip for four down the Niobrara; and more! Nicole chose a day pass to the Henry Doorly Zoo.

One thing that we love is that Nebraska is the only state in the nation where every single home

and business receives electric service from publicly owned, local utilities, making Nebraska 100% public powered.

This social media campaign is bringing awareness to the advantages of public power: local governance; jobs and dollars are kept local; safe, reliable, cost-effective electricity; good stewards of resources, and, with our wholesale provider, sustainable electricity for the future.

You still have time to comment on what you love about Nebraska and public power and to win as the campaign is taking place through November, 2022.

A T-shirt giveaway (20 shirts/month) is also going on.

For more information about the campaign and the benefits of public power, visit [www.publicpowered.com](http://www.publicpowered.com)



## METER INSTALLS CONTINUE

The new AMI system installation will continue with residential meters throughout the rest of the year.

As a reminder, Elkhorn has contracted with Chapman Metering out of Iowa to install the meters. Pictured to the right is the type of van that they use for their work.

The workers will be wearing blue or yellow shirts with high visibility strips and hard hats with the Chapman logo (pictured upper right) on them.

They will knock to let you know that they are installing the meter. If you are not at home they will still

exchange the meter.

This update to the system will enhance our ability to monitor the system, especially blinks and outages, as well as our communications with you about your service. Thank you for your cooperation during this transition.

