



THE WIRE



CURRENT NEWS FROM THE ELKHORN RURAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

March 2022

Serving the Elkhorn River Valley since 1940

Volume 31, Number 3

NE NE FARM SHOW - SAFETY MESSAGE

Thank you to everyone that came out to see us at the 35th Anniversary of the Northeast Nebraska Farm and Equipment Show at the Northeast Community College Chuck M. Pohlman Ag Complex in January.

We enjoy talking to customers and reminding them about safety around high voltage power lines.

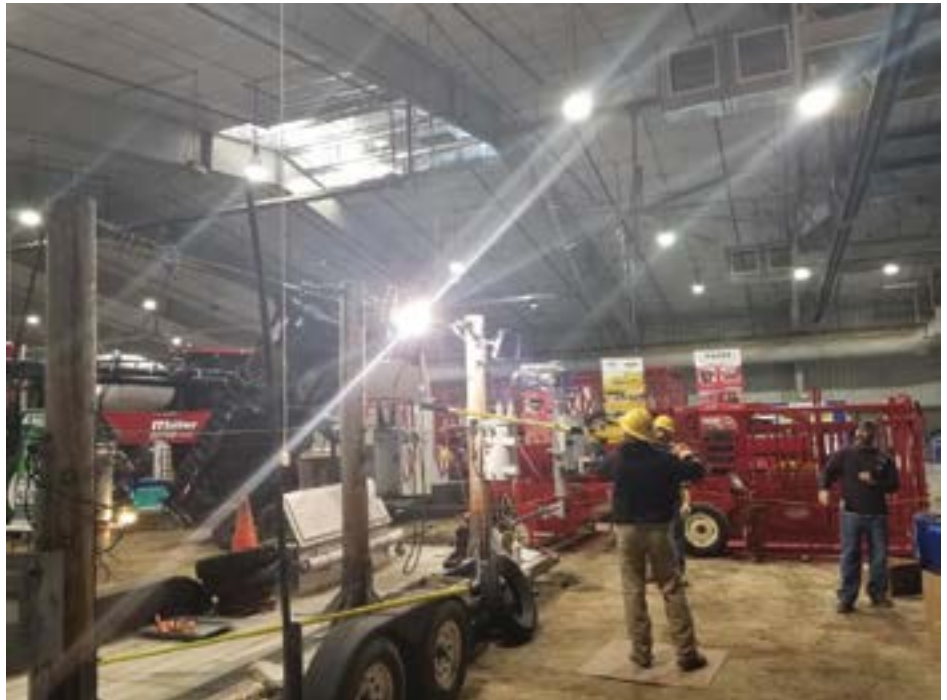
In the picture to the right, Marc Ahlers, SCADA Field Tech, foreground, is demonstrating what happens when something comes in contact with a power line.

Stanton County PPD partners with us to man the booth and do the demonstrations. Luke Renter, apprentice lineman and Mike Larson, crew chief, with SCPPD are also pictured.

The live line safety demonstration it is to remind everyone to look up and out for power lines. New or larger equipment, changes to the entrance to the field, someone who may not be familiar with where the lines are - all of these things can contribute to accidents out in the field and need to be considered each season.

Please remember to take a moment and look up and make sure you are clear of high voltage lines. It could save a life.

Also remember, if you do make contact with a power line that you



STAY IN the equipment or vehicle and call or wait for help. You cannot tell if down lines are still energized, so leaving the equipment could be deadly.

If you see fire or smell smoke and have to exit the equipment or vehicle, be sure to jump clear without touching anything and hop or shuffle with feet close together to a safe distance.

For more information, window decals or stickers; or, if you would like to schedule the live line safety demonstration for an event or group please call the office at 402.675.2185



Pictured above is Steven Schellpeper, winner of the drawing for a LED work light. Ken Wessel, not shown, was the winner of a Milwaukee cordless drill.

FIRST QUARTER FUNDING

Community Development Fund Requests and Awards February 2022

Organization	Project	Location	Amount Awarded
American Legion Baseball Team Post 75	Uniform and Equipment Purchase	Battle Creek	\$1,000.00
Brigg & Barrett Project	BBKids - Child Engagement	Battle Creek	\$1,000.00
Clearwater Chamber of Commerce	Clearwater Rodeo	Clearwater	\$1,000.00
Clearwater Historical Society	Museum Refurbish/Remodel	Clearwater	\$1,500.00
Elgin Public Library	Workspace Re-design Furniture	Elgin	\$1,000.00
Elgin Public School	Post Prom	Elgin	\$100.00
Village of Hadar	Plastic Recycling Dumpster	Hadar	\$750.00
Lois Johnson Memorial Public Library	Summer Reading Program	Oakdle	\$1,000.00
Madison Public Library	Children's Maker Space	Madison	\$1,000.00
Northeast Nebraska High School Rodeo	Judges	Madison	\$400.00
Lied Pierce Public Library	Lego Club	Pierce	\$907.00
Sacred Heart Early Learning Center	Sun Protection for Playground	Norfolk	\$1,000.00
TOTAL			\$10,657.00



Pictured above is Sally a new pony in the program - Hazel, seated on Sally, and Karen are training Sally to be a therapeutic pony. The Community Development Fund recently gave to S.M.I.L.E. As Patty Prauner, Program Director at S.M.I.L.E., put in her recent thank you letter: "THANK YOU, THANK YOU to all who Round Up! . . . It is a HUGE Blessing. . . ." (Photo courtesy of S.M.I.L.E.)

Second Quarter	Application Deadline April 18, 2022	Board Meeting Date: May 2, 2022
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Plant Trees Safely

Before you dig, call 811 to locate buried utility lines.

LOW TREE ZONE

Avoid planting within 20 ft. of power lines. If planting is unavoidable, only plant shrubs and small trees that reach a mature height of 15 ft. or less.

MEDIUM TREE ZONE

Plant medium trees (under 40 ft. when mature) at least 25 ft. away from power lines.

LARGE TREE ZONE

Plant large trees (over 40 ft. when mature) at least 50 ft. away from power lines.



It will soon be spring and landscaping projects will be starting.

Protect your investment in the future by planting trees in the right place outside of the high voltage line right of way. Follow the graphic above to be sure that the type of tree you plant will not grow into the line.



Need a good idea?

Then check out e-billing. If you sign up for e-billing by the end of the month you could be a winner.

Everyone that signs up for e-billing will be entered in a drawing for \$50!!

E-billing is convenient, good for the environment and stress free. No more waiting for your bill in the mail - it comes to your in box and you don't have to worry about what to do with the paper copy.



Call the office today to find out more and to get put in the drawing for \$50!!

Elkhorn Rural Public Power District
March 2022

NEW AMI SYSTEM INSTALL PROCEEDS

Last year the board approved a new Radio Frequency (RF) Mesh Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system.

This system has technological advances that will allow us to better monitor the system, manage blinks and outages, and communicate with customers about their service. The data collected from the network will help in decision making and enhance service to our customers.

The mesh network allows the system to communicate even in major outages when there is damage to the poles and wires,

and circuits are rerouted to get power back on sooner. Our current system is a power carrier, meaning that the wire would need to be intact to know if meters were working or not.

We are working with vendor Landis and Gyr to begin the installation process of the new mesh network.

First will be the foundation of the communication system. This will involve installing hardware in substations and other equipment throughout the district for system information collection.

Other equipment including meters will be installed later this spring and throughout the rest of the year.

This new system will allow for future upgrades like outage management software that will allow us to communicate outages in real time, which will be a benefit to our customers.

This type of investment in the electrical system will allow us to continue fulfilling our mission to serve our customers with safe, reliable and cost-effective electricity.

TRAILER FOR SALE:

The trailer pictured to the right will be available for purchase as described below.

2010 S&W tilt bed trailer. Pintel hitch, 2 10k dual tandem axles with electric brakes, 24 ft. total length, 5 1/2 ft. stationary platform and manual tilt. The trailer is available for viewing.

Sealed bids on the trailer may be made starting **Friday, March 4**, by mail at PO Box 310, Battle Creek NE 68715, in person at 206 N. 4th St. Battle Creek, NE or e-mail: tknutson@erppd.com.

The sale will close at **4:00 p.m. Monday March 14**. The winning bid will be selected and the buyer notified.

The trailer will be listed on Facebook Marketplaces as well.

If you have questions about the trailer call Chris Sovereign at 402-675-2185.



Elkhorn Rural Public Power District
March 2022

NEBRASKA RURAL ELECTRIC YOUTH ENERGY LEADERSHIP CAMP



July 18-22, 2022

High school students, grades 9 - 11
Nebraska State 4-H Camp - Halsey, Neb.

If you are interested in applying for this all-expense paid camp, complete the application form and return it to your local electric system.

NO, IT'S NOT JUST ANOTHER CAMP

I bet right now you are thinking that this is the zillionth camp flyer you have seen and that this camp is just like all the rest. It costs a bunch, you won't know anyone there, it's going to be awkward, and you won't get anything out of going, except maybe a sunburn.

THINK AGAIN!

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.

So don't delay...apply today!

WHY SHOULD I ATTEND?

Now that you know this isn't just another camp, you may be asking yourself, "should I go?"

- You should if you have:
- Leadership potential
 - An awesome personality
 - A strong academic record
 - An interest in meeting new people



WIN A FREE TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

Three campers will be selected to serve as Nebraska's Ambassadors to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Rural Electric Youth Tour in 2023.



2022 ERPPD ENERGY LEADERSHIP CAMP APPLICATION FORM

Return to : Elkhorn Rural Public Power District, c/o Stacie Young, PO Box 310, Battle Creek, NE 68715

(Entry Deadline April 13, 2022)

Name _____

Address _____

Parents' or Guardian's Name _____ Phone Number _____

School _____ Age _____ Grade _____

COMPLETE THE SHORT PARAGRAPH BELOW:

Why I would like to attend the 2022 Youth Energy Leadership Camp at the 4-H camp at Halsey National Forest on July 18-22 as a representative of Elkhorn Rural Public Power District.
