



THE WIRE



CURRENT NEWS FROM THE ELKHORN RURAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

September 2022

Serving the Elkhorn River Valley since 1940

Volume 31, Number 9

YOUTH ENERGY LEADERSHIP CAMP

The Nebraska Rural Electric Association’s Youth Energy Leadership Camp (YELC) is not your usual summer camp.

ERPPD sponsored five campers that can attest to that! Attending this year were Emily Ahlers daughter of Marc and Kim Ahlers, Clearwater; Jack Barlow, son of Mike and Rachael Barlow, Ewing; Austin Hinkle son of Luke and Jessica Hinkle, Elgin; Jaelynn Kesting daughter of Bryan and Kaleena Kesting of Battle Creek; and Lenora Kester daughter of Duane and Jennifer Kester, Clearwater.

YELC is a great opportunity for youth in high school to experience what it is like to be involved with their electric power utility, while having a lot of fun, meeting new people and learning leadership skills.

At the week-long camp, campers learn about the workings of public power districts, for example: electing a board of directors and hiring a general manager as well as being a part of committees that function like a power district.

Campers also tour Gerald Gentleman power station, participate in fun activities like games and canoeing. There is a talent show and on the last night there is a dance.

Campers can also compete to represent Nebraska during the Youth Tour in Washington D.C. the



Campers that attended the NREA Youth Energy Leadership Camp pictured left to right: Jaelynn Kesting from Battle Creek High School, Lenora Kester & Emily Ahlers from Summerland School, Austin Hinkle from Elgin Public and Jack Barlow from Elgin Pope John.

following June, as an ambassador. Youth Tour is a once-in-a-life-time trip to visit the US capitol, learn about our nation’s history and political process and meet a lot of new people from all fifty states.

At YELC this year, Lenora Kester received the “Good Egg” award.

“Good Egg” is an expression that refers to a person that is agreeable and trustworthy.



From the YELC handbook “The Good Egg Award for YELC was

established to recognize important qualities in campers that many times goes unnoticed and unrewarded. These qualities are cheerfulness, friendliness, a willingness to do small “unglamorous jobs”, honesty, kindness and a general cooperative attitude and manner. Two female and two male campers are selected for this award out of all the campers.

As the recipient of the award, Lenora has been invited to come back to camp next year as a junior counselor.

We would like to congratulate Lenora for being selected and for displaying these outstanding characteristics.

ELECTRICITY GENERATION & DISTRIBUTION

Have you ever considered where the electricity that powers businesses and your home comes from?

The origin of the electricity that end use consumers purchase varies. Some electric utilities generate all the electricity they sell using just the power plants they own. Other utilities purchase electricity directly from other utilities, power marketers and independent power producers or from wholesale markets organized by a regional transmission reliability organization.

Elkhorn Rural Public Power District (ERPPD) has an all-requirements Wholesale Power Agreement with Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), which means that NPPD is responsible for fulfilling ERPPD's power needs through their generation resources within the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) process.

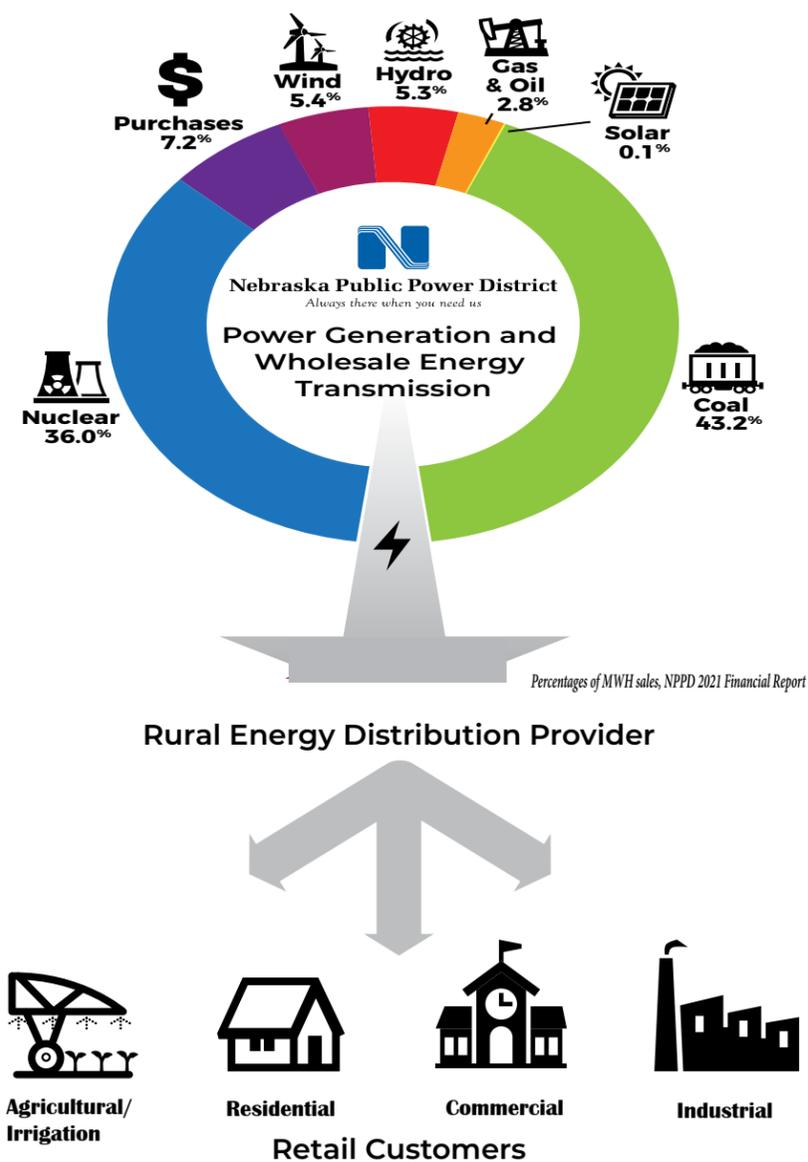
ERPPD is responsible for distributing the power purchased from NPPD to its end use consumers. Within the agreement, ERPPD is allowed to purchase a small portion of its power requirements from local renewable energy resources. ERPPD does currently purchase 6.5 MW of power from solar facilities in our territory. (See the January and February 2020 *Wire* for more on our solar agreement.)

NPPD has a diverse generation mix, see graphic to the right, that is beneficial to its wholesale customers, including ERPPD's end use consumers. ERPPD and NPPD are focused on providing power to their consumers that is safe, reliable, cost-effective and accomplished in an environmentally responsible manner.

The graphic below shows the generation mix of our whole-sale supplier, Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) and how each resource is obtained and used to generate electricity.

This mix strives to balance base load (always running and available when needed) and intermittent energy sources, that would be weather dependent, to ensure reliable, resilient and cost-effective electricity for our customers. ERPPD then distributes that energy to our customers, providing safe, reliable cost-effective electricity.

UNDERSTANDING WHO GENERATES AND WHO DISTRIBUTES ELECTRICITY



Elkhorn Rural Public Power District
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National Voter Registration Day is **September 20**, and Election Day is right around the corner. If you're looking to get involved or simply make sure you're ready to vote, here are three easy ways you can exercise your civic duty.

1. Don't assume your voter registration status is up to date. Visit <https://www.votercheck.necvr.ne.gov/voterview/> to check your registration. If you are not registered visit: <https://www.nebraska.gov/apps-sos-voter-registration/>.

2. Get informed. In addition to ensuring your registration is up to date, learning about local policy issues and candidates is one of the best ways you can prepare to vote. Local control is one of the advantages of public power and an informed, engaged electorate is very important to its success.

3. Vote! It's the easiest—and most important—way you can exercise your civic duty. Voting is a form of personal empowerment that gives you the opportunity to voice your opinion on the issues that matter most to you and it makes a difference. In the last two elections the rural vote has increased and made a difference in elections - both locally and nationally.



Elkhorn Rural Public Power District will be closed in observance of Labor Day Monday, Sept. 5, 2022

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YOUR CHANGE MAKING CHANGES



Thank you for continuing to make big differences in your communities by rounding up each month.



From Karri Roling-Wilson, executive director of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), pictured:

"Thank you so much for the grant! This money will help immensely with recruitment of new volunteers. Without volunteers, we would not be able to help abused and neglected children with their forever homes."



Cleon Schwede, fire chief for Battle Creek Fire and Rescue holds the AED that BC Rescue applied for. He wrote in the application, "It came to our attention that there were no AEDs in the (Battle Creek) park. We think that this is a good place to use this money for all the people that use the park."

Community Development Fund Requests and Awards August 2022

Organization	Project	Location	Amount Awarded
Battle Creek Community Development	Start Up Expenses	Battle Creek	\$1,000.00
Battle Creek Fire and Rescue	AED for Park	Battle Creek	\$1,000.00
Big Bang Boom, Inc.	Boom Fest 2022	Norfolk	\$1,000.00
Bright Horizons	Project Homeless Connect	Norfolk	\$1,000.00
CASA of Northeast NE	Volunteer Recruitment	Norfolk	\$1,000.00
Elgin Community Center	Air Conditioner	Elgin	\$1,000.00
Elgin Community Club	Elgin Tractor Pull	Elgin	\$1,000.00
Elgin Rural Fire District	Update Grass Rig	Elgin	\$1,000.00
Eklhorn Valley Museum	Verges Cave and Park Restoration and Conservation Project	Norfolk	\$1,000.00
Norfolk Area Concert Association	Advertising for 2022/23 Season	Norfolk	\$1,000.00
Pope John/St. Boniface Schools	Physical Fitness for the Future	Elgin	\$1,000.00
VFW Post 5816	Flags for Main Street	Elgin	\$1,000.00
	Total		\$12,000.00

Fourth Quarter	Application Deadline October 17, 2022	Board Meeting Date: November 7, 2022
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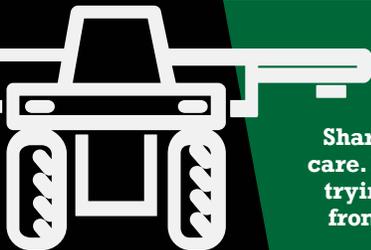
SHARE the ROAD with Farmers

Be safe.
Be Courteous.

Farm season means sharing the road with large farm equipment. Farmers must move slowly in large equipment, but public roads are often the only available routes.

When you find yourself following or meeting large farm equipment on the road, do the following to keep everyone safe:

- 1 Be alert and cautious, and give large farm equipment and other slow-moving vehicles space.
- 2 Do not pass if you are in a "No Passing Zone," or in any area where it is not safe to do so, such as intersections, bridges and railroad crossings, among others.
- 3 Be careful when you do get the chance to pass. Oftentimes, farmers will move their equipment over when it is safe to do so.
- 4 Do not tailgate.
- 5 Make sure the tractor is not trying to make a left turn before you pass on the left.



Share the road with care. Farmers are just trying to get to and from their job, too.

Source: Texas Table Top
(Texas Farm Bureau)

Safe
Electricity.org

EMPLOYEE UPDATE



Jim Wennekamp has taken the position of Staking Meter Assistant. He will be working in the staking and meter departments and working closely with customers who are looking to change or add to their services.

Jim has been with Elkhorn Rural Public Power District for 27 years. For the majority of that time he has been a journeyman lineman. Most recently, he has been a foreman in Battle Creek.

Jim is bringing his leadership skills and attention to detail to this new position.

AMI INSTALL

The installation of the meters for the new Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) has been delayed due to supply chain and technical issues.

Residential meter installation will begin this month. We have contracted with Chapman Metering to install the meters. You will see them using a van similar to the one pictured below. Workers will be wearing a blue or yellow shirt with high visibility stripes on them and hard hats with the Chapman logo.

The worker will knock on the door to let you know they are changing the meter. If you are not at home, they will still exchange the meter.

This new AMI system updates our technology and helps to monitor the system for blinks and outages and will enhance our service to you.

