

March 2018



EnLIGHTening NEWS

Serving Stanton County and parts of Madison, Wayne, Cuming, and Colfax counties

The Nebraska Unicameral

In the 1930's Nebraska was hit hard by the Dust Bowl. The state was struggling financially in the public and private sector. An idea surfaced in Nebraska to switch from a bicameral to a unicameral to save money. This idea was pushed by Senator George Norris in the early 1930s. January 5th, 1937, 43 Senators looked on as the first ever unicameral began its first session. Today Nebraska is the only state to have this one-house system and it is often referred to as the Legislature.

George Norris didn't have the original idea of a unicameral but he did champion the idea and worked to amend the state constitution. He spent a great deal of time and money crisscrossing the state pursuing the idea of a one-house system. This concept was an original idea of the founding fathers of our country, but after much debate they settled on a bicameral system.

The first Wednesday after the first Monday of January of every

year Nebraska Legislature convenes for a legislative session. The session is 60 Legislative days on even number years and 90 Legislative days on odd years.

This January was the beginning of the 2nd session of the 105th Legislature. This is a short, 60 day session that ends on April 18th. The highlights will center on balancing the state budget, real estate tax relief and prison overcrowding. We will continue to monitor bills that will affect the mission of Public Power. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, Legislative or otherwise, please let me know.



Chad Waldow
General Manager



Representatives that serve our local area:

US Senator Ben Sasse:	www.sasse.senator.gov
US Senator Deb Fisher:	www.fisher.senator.gov
Congressman Jeff Fortenberry:	www.fortenberry.house.gov

Governor Pete Ricketts:	www.governor.nebraska.gov (402)-471-2244
--------------------------------	--

State Senator Lydia Brasch - District 16:	(402)-471-2728
State Senator Jim Scheer - District 19:	(402)-471-2929
State Senator Paul Schumacher - District 22:	(402)-471-2715

Spring tree planting - Keep Zoning Regulations in Mind

Planning ahead when planting a tree is key. The right kind of tree located in the right place is a critical factor in helping prevent tree-related outages and increased line maintenance costs.

Making a good choice from a list of approved tree species can ensure a long and healthy life for your vegetation. Trees or shrubs which reach mature heights of 8 to 15 feet can safely be planted near low-voltage distribution lines. Trees or shrubs with a mature height greater than 15 feet should never be planted near power line right of ways, as pruning or removal may be necessary.

State law requires you to have underground utilities located before you dig. Be sure to call the Diggers Hotline at 811 or 800-331-5666 at least 48 hours before you plant. Utilities such as underground power lines, cable TV, gas, telephone and sewer lines will be located and flagged at no charge.



It's the law!
Call 811
Before You Dig!
Or 1-800-331-5666

Stanton County Zoning Regulations

FIG.A—

Corner Lots = nothing erected, planted, or grown that would materially impede vision between 2½ ft. and 8 ft. above grade of centerline and from point of intersection 200 ft. in any direction.

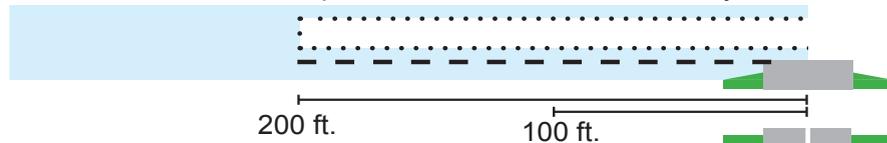


FIG.C—

Tree or Shrub row = 100 ft. from centerline; (67 ft. from edge of county ROW).

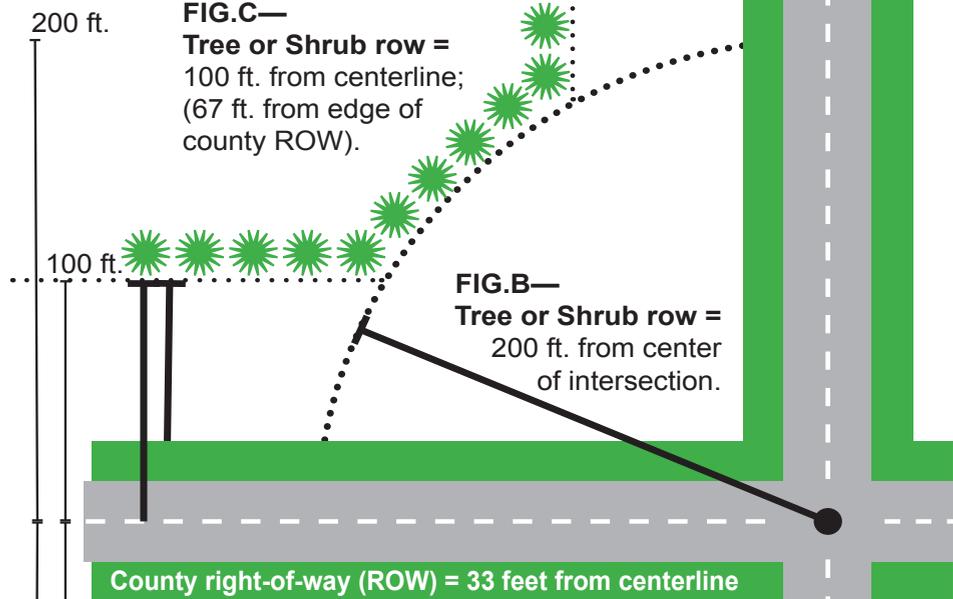


FIG.B—

Tree or Shrub row = 200 ft. from center of intersection.

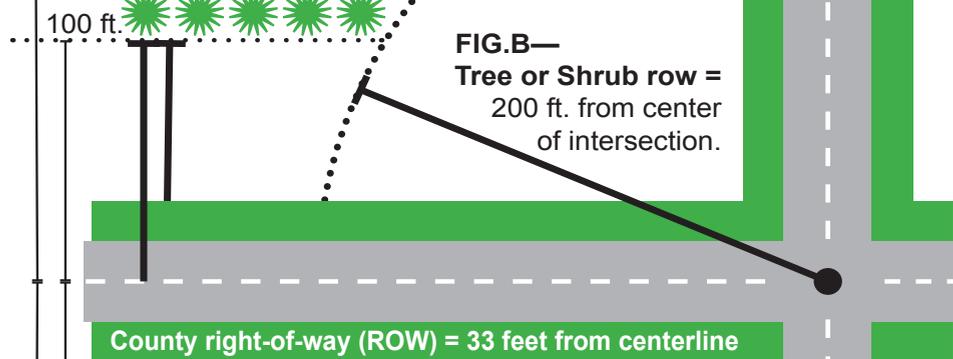
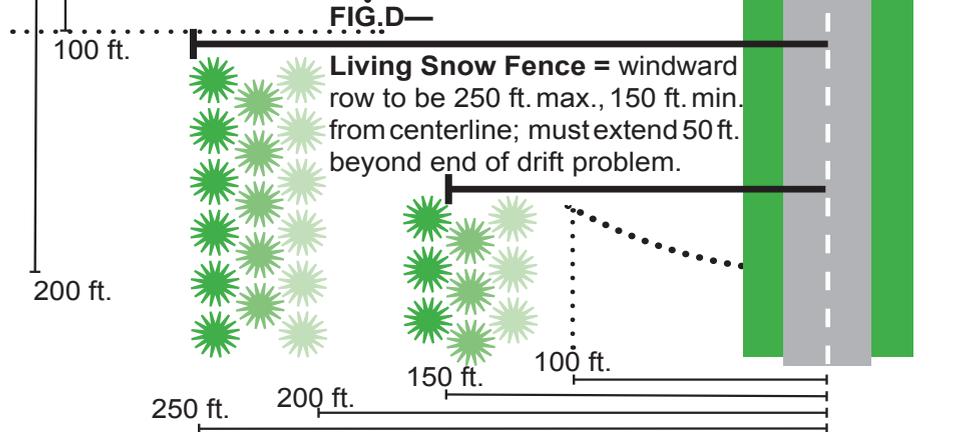


FIG.D—

Living Snow Fence = windward row to be 250 ft. max., 150 ft. min. from centerline; must extend 50 ft. beyond end of drift problem.



EnergyWiseSM Incentives

RESIDENTIAL:

Heat Pump Water Heater -

- \$200 incentive for air source heat pump water heaters, with efficiency factor greater than 1.9.
- \$500 incentive for ground source heat pump water heaters, with efficiency factor greater than 2.8.
- No incentive for desuperheaters.

High Efficiency Heat Pumps -

15-15.9 SEER, 12.5 EER, 8.5 HSPF	\$200
16-17.9 SEER, 12.5 EER, 8.5 HSPF	\$400
18+ SEER, 12.5 EER, 8.5 HSPF	\$600
Water source heat pump	\$1,200
Variable capacity water source	\$1,700



Cooling System Tune-Up **\$30**

Residential Attic Insulation **up to \$300**

New Commercial & Industrial Lighting Incentives - Ask for information

EnergyWiseSM Efficiency Tip

Lumen Depreciation:

What is lumen depreciation? Simply, it is the decrease in lighting output that occurs over the life of a light fixture or bulb. Like a chronic disease, it comes on slowly. Without notice, illumination levels gradually dim. Before you know it, you experience eye strain and difficulty reading small print. As it continues, headaches and decreased productivity result. If left unchecked, poor lighting can even usher in accidents and depression.

Lamp Burnouts

When a lamp or bulb expires, it becomes a "burnout." This sounds fairly simple. But, if the entire light fixture has numerous lamps or if the fixture has a shade or translucent panel, globe, lens,

etc., you may not have noticed the burnout. Take time to investigate all your fixtures. And, if you come across a burnout? Well, simply replace it with a highly efficient LED lamp!

Lamp Lumen Depreciation

As lamps age, they produce less and less light on a predictable curve, the extent of which depends on the type of lamp. In the home, fluorescent lamps tend to be the worst. By the end of their life, output can drop lower than 80 percent of their original rating. Replace old, dim lamps with new ones. If possible, use a permanent marker to write the installation on the lamp or bulb's base. This will help you determine whether you are getting the hours of life and anticipated light output you expect!

Dates to Keep in Mind

March 1: Irrigation service agreement contracts will be mailed out - please return your contract(s) by April 15

March 9-10: National UnPlug Day (sundown to sundown) unplug from electronics for a day

March 11: Daylight savings begins; set your clocks ahead one hour

March 17: St. Patrick's Day

March 20: First Day of Spring



Fixture (Luminaire) Dirt Depreciation

Dirt and dust are inevitable, and particles are often attracted to and trapped in electrical equipment. Even if fixtures are cleaned every 18 months, dirt buildup can reduce light output by 10 percent between cleanings. Don't forget to switch the light "off" before cleaning. And, don't forget about all those dead bugs lying in the bottom glass of your ceiling fixtures! You know, the ones that have been there since the first freeze last fall?

For additional ideas on how you can reduce the effects of lumen depreciation and save energy while illuminating your home, contact the SPCPD office.

Prepare your home for outages

YOUR POWER OUTAGE PANTRY

We do our best to avoid power outages, but unfortunately, Mother Nature occasionally has different plans. Stay ahead of the storm by stocking your pantry with a variety of non-perishable items.

Set these items aside for extended outages only, and your storm prep will be a breeze!

Don't forget to stock up on disposable goods, like paper plates, napkins, plastic cutlery and cups.

- BEANS
- CANNED FRUIT
- CANNED TUNA
- CANNED VEGETABLES
- CEREAL
- DRIED FRUITS
- DRIED MEATS/JERKY
- GRAHAM CRACKERS
- PASTA
- RICE
- SPAM
- OATMEAL



Information about SCPPD

When you have an emergency, SCPPD people are standing by!

In the case of an outage:

- 1- Check your fuses and/or breakers to be sure they are working properly.
- 2 - If you have a double-throw switch, make sure it is in the correct position.
- 3 - Notice your neighbors; do they have power?

Checking these few things before you call SCPPD can help us determine the severity of the outage and therefore expedite the restoration.

Please be sure to give the name that is listed on the billing account and physical address of the outage when calling into the office.

Questions about your bill?

Please call SCPPD, 402-439-2228, during office hours, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., in regards to billing questions. When calling the office concerning billing problems, it will save time if you have your meter serial number or customer account number. All account payments should be mailed to:

Stanton County Public Power District
807 Douglas Street, P.O. Box 319
Stanton, NE 68779-0319

Board of Directors with Board position

Doug OertwichPresident
 John Gall..... Vice President
 Robert Schellpeper.....Secretary
 Gary Koehlmoos.....Treasurer
 Weldon Marotz.....Director
 Jim Scherer.....Director

Manager
 Chad Waldow

For Outage Reporting or Emergency service

Call 1-877-439-2228.

Before 8 a.m. or after 4:30 p.m.

Call 1-877-439-2300.

**Communicate Electronically
With SCPPD**

Internet: www.scppd.com

E-mail: scppd@scppd.net



It's the law!

**Call 811
Before You Dig!**

Or 1-800-331-5666

"Diggers Hotline of Nebraska"
 Also www.ne-diggers.com