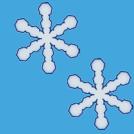


December 2018



# EnLIGHTening NEWS

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

## Looking Towards 2019

December is here, and we are getting close to putting a wrap on 2018.

This was another good year for Stanton County PPD in many ways: Another safe year for our line crews, we had minimal storm damage/ outages allowing for strong reliability numbers and we continue to have financial stability with no rate increases. We added two apprentice linemen to our crew in Luke Renter and Brandon Bailey. We welcome them both aboard!

We did suffer one major loss in 2018. One of our linemen, Brad Goeden, lost his battle with a medical issue. He was not only a line-man, but a good friend! Brad will be missed.

We have had no rate increases since 2014. Over 60% of our expenses are in the cost of purchased power, therefore, minimal increase from our wholesale provider, NPPD, has made a significant impact.

**We expect no further rate increases for 2019.  
I appreciate the effort being made here at the  
District and the Wholesale Level to keep rates  
low yet still offer the high level of reliability  
that all of us expect!**



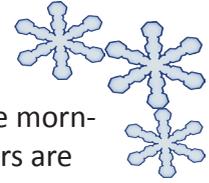
Chad Waldow  
General Manager



Looking toward 2019, we are preparing for another busy year here at the District. We are planning to install a wireless mesh AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure) system across the District. This project will increase our level of customer service. We look for this system to provide more data and to allow us to respond to the ever-changing industry we serve. We will be completing this project with our crews soon and hope to have it up and running in 2019. This will include a new load control system for irrigation. However, the load control program itself will not change for 2019. There will be more information in upcoming newsletters.

*Continued on page 3*

## EnergyWise<sup>SM</sup> Efficiency Tip: Garages



As cold weather sets its grip on our daily lives, many people retreat to their garage to escape the outdoor elements. Cars are parked inside to avoid scraping off ice and snow in the morning. Projects are moved in to evade the chilling wind. Wood stoves are stoked. Space heaters are plugged in. Thermostats for shop furnaces are turned up. Unless folks remember how these actions affected their energy use last year, they may be shocked when their first winter utility bills arrive.

Usually the garage is the most energy inefficient room of a home. A typical two-car garage measures 480 square feet, or about 20 percent of the size of the average U.S. home. Yet, it is often the least insulated and sealed, and it uses the least efficient lighting and is home to older appliances. You may want to consider a few of the following projects to keep your energy use from literally going through the roof.

**Insulate the walls:** Insulating can be as easy as tacking fiberglass insulation between exposed joists. If your garage walls are finished, insulation can be blown in through a small hole in the drywall or paneling.

**Caulk between the walls and the concrete floor:** You can either use a foam sealant or a latex/silicone-based caulk to seal this often overlooked area.

**Seal the door between the house and garage:** Check to ensure weather-stripping is installed around the entire door frame, and that it's intact, pliable and provides a snug seal. Also, ensure your threshold and door sweep are sealing the bottom.

**Insulate the garage door:** A new, insulated door will cost several hundreds of dollars or more, but will provide a clean appearance. A lower cost solution is to purchase foam board insulation and install it on the inside panels of your existing doors. Remember, you must cut the foam board to a size a little smaller than your garage door's panels so it doesn't smash together with insulation on other panels as the door rolls up and down.

**Switch to LED lighting:** Compared to traditional, incandescent lights, LEDs use only 10 percent of the electricity to produce identical illumination levels. Compared to fluorescent lighting, LEDs use 40 to 60 percent less energy for the same amount of light.

## Budget Billing is open

**Customers who are interested in the 2019 Budget billing Program:  
Application will be taken until December 31, 2018**

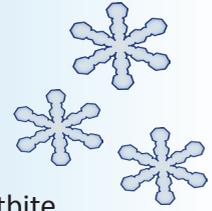
The budget billing period will follow the customer billings from January 1 to December 31 of each year for residential accounts only.

For more information and a full procedure agreement, please contact the SPCPD office, or find the information at [www.scppd.net](http://www.scppd.net)





# Be Ready When Mother Nature Strikes



When Mother Nature strikes this winter, make sure you're ready. Hundreds of Americans are injured or killed in the winter months due to car accidents, and in home fires caused by improper use of heaters. In addition, winter storms create a higher risk of hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, and heart attacks due to overexertion.

Prepare for extreme weather and to stay home during storms and their aftermath whenever possible.

**Be Ready:**

- Consider special needs or medical issues in your household; have an ample supply of all medications.
- Have a supply of non-perishable food, as well as plenty of drinking water and a first-aid kit.
- Prepare for weather events year round by keeping a checklist of items to have on hand. Have as many of these essentials at the ready and in one place in case a storm event happens without much warning.
- As the winter months approach, prepare your home with proper insulation, caulking and weather striping. Learn how to keep pipes from freezing. Install smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors with battery backups and test them to make sure they work.

**Stay Inside:**

Stay home during snow and ice storms and wait until roads are passable. This may sound obvious but some people think whatever they had planned is too important to miss. Whatever the commitment, it's not worth getting into an accident or finding yourself stranded.

*For more tips on Winter preparedness, go to [www.scppd.net](http://www.scppd.net)*

## 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 Oertwich .....President
- 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](http://www.scppd.com)**

**E-mail: [scppd@scppd.net](mailto: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](http://www.ne-diggers.com)