

December 2021 >>>



- Year in Review*
- Holiday Lighting Safety*
- Heating Efficiency Tips*
- Budget Billing Opens for 2022*
- Holiday Closings*



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

EnLIGHTening NEWS



About Us >>>

Stanton County Public Power District: Board of Directors

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

Contact Us:

Phone – (402)-439-2228 or (877)-439-2228

Website: www.scppd.com

Email: scppd@scppd.net

Mail: PO Box 319, Stanton, NE 68779

Office: 807 Douglas St. Stanton, NE

Check us out on Facebook & Twitter

**Report an Outage:
877-439-2300
for after hours service**

2021 Year-In-Review

The District working for YOU

The holiday season is in full swing, and soon we will be turning the calendars to the new year. I want to briefly recap a good year for the District. I would also like to thank our employees for their efforts over the last year. Our business is serving our customers and that starts with good employees!

We are also managing through a pandemic which has impacted our business beyond the health of our employees. We are seeing supply chain issues like many of you may be experiencing at home and work. We have managed inventory levels to ensure we have the necessary equipment on hand if a new service is requested or a storm hits the system. I want to thank our employees as they have made sacrifices to ensure we are able to serve our customers in an emergency.

I recall the rolling blackouts in February due to the polar vortex bringing extreme cold temperatures to the area. The Southwest Power Pool generation resources did not meet the demand of the load and this event has caused some tough questions of our wholesale supplier and the Southwest Power Pool, the market they participate in. While we have very little to do with those decisions, we will be your biggest advocate for reliable and low-cost power.

We have completed several work-plan projects to continue to upgrade and harden the system. We have also completed several maintenance projects to maintain a reliable system and keep those lights on for our customers.

Continued on page 3

Manager Chad Waldow



Deck the Halls Safely

There's nothing like putting up lights and decorations to get you in the holiday spirit. It's something that many do each and every year without incident, yet the holidays are also one of the most hazardous times of the year when it comes to electrical fires and accidents.

Here are several safety tips as you deck the halls this season:

- When decorating outside, look up and around for power lines. Never throw lights or other decorations into trees near power lines.
- Keep ladders, equipment, and yourself at least ten feet from power lines.
- Match plugs with outlets. Do not force a three-pronged plug into a two-pronged outlet or extension cord.
- Outside, use only lights, cords, animated displays, and decorations rated for outdoor use. Follow the manufacturer's instructions on how to use them. Ensure outdoor outlets or extension cords are equipped with Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI's).
- Never string more stands of lights together than recommended by the manufacturer.
- Do not staple or nail through light strings or electrical cords. Use plastic or insulated hooks to hang lights.



"Smart" Facts!

HOW SMART IS A Smart Thermostat?



MYTH VS FACT

My thermostat automatically saves me money.



That depends on how it's programmed and your preferences. It still uses the same amount of energy to reach and maintain temps.

A smart thermostat is smart straight out of the box.



The thermostat needs a little time to learn your heating and cooling preferences.

My thermostat is only as smart as I am.



Sort of. Most models are independent thinkers and adjust the temperature if no one's home.

It's creepy, my smart thermostat seems to know when I'm home.



It's smart for a reason! Geotechnology syncs your thermostat with your arrival. Some models use geofencing technology that tracks your smart phone location and kicks on when you're nearby.

My smart thermostat makes me smarter.



We'll give you this one! It can help you save money and make your home more efficient.

LEARN MORE



EnergyWise Incentives >>>



2021 Incentive Rebate Programs

Energy Efficiency is important to all! If you are looking for ways to save energy and money, check our list of rebate programs. There are several options for customers to take advantage of in the 2021 year. For more information, check the website at www.scppd.com or call the office at 402-439-2228.

Residential Heat Pump Water Heater:

\$400 for air source with an EF > 1.9

\$650 for ground source with an EF > 2.8

High Efficiency Heat Pump:

\$400 - \$3,000 Incentive

Minimum SEER 15, EER 12.5 & HSPF 8.5

Includes Air-to-Air, and Water/Ground source

SMART thermostat:

\$25-\$100 Incentive options

Cooling System Tune-up: \$30

Attic Insulation: \$0.15 per square foot - \$300 max.



Year-In-Review Continued from page 1

The District working for YOU

We have successfully completed a RESAP inspection in 2021. This is a deep dive into the safety of the District including inspections, compliance and work procedures. We have also promoted safety throughout the community by putting on several safety demonstrations.

The Board of Directors and management team completed a very in-depth strategic planning process. We have developed a direction and guideposts for the District as we navigate through these interesting times in our industry.

We paid down and re-financed a portion of our long-term debt resulting in savings to the District. These savings will be used to offset the pressures of any rate increases. The District continues to refund the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) credit to the majority of rate classes. This PCA credit has equated to over \$750,000 to benefit customers and the District.

Everything we have done moves us towards our goal of providing our customers reliable, affordable electric service. From all of us at the District, we hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and wish you a Happy New Year!



STAY TOASTY AND WARM WHILE TURNING DOWN THE THERMOSTAT

When the winter winds blow, it is tempting to adjust the thermostat up a few degrees to stay toasty and warm. However, turning to other (FREE!) ways to help keep you warm could help reduce your energy bills.

Each degree you reduce your thermostat saves 1% on your heating bill. No one home during the day? Adjust your thermostat 7 to 10 degrees from its normal setting to save up to 10% annually.

Source: Department of Energy

HERE ARE WAYS TO HELP YOU STAY WARM WHEN IT IS COLD OUTSIDE:

- Bundle up by wearing layers and heavy socks
- Get your body moving and stay active
- Use blankets while sitting still
- Caulk windows and door frames that leak air
- Replace or update old or ineffective door seals
- Make sure your home's heating system is working properly
- Keep your furnace clean and change the filter monthly
- Let the sun shine in during the day and close window coverings at night
- Reduce how long you use ventilation fans (they transfer warm air outside)
- Keep a fireplace damper closed when not in use
- Humidify your home to make the air feel warmer

If you use a portable space heater, use it safely and for short amounts of time. Using one for extended periods can cause your energy bill to spike since it draws a lot of power.

Learn more at: [SafeElectricity.org](https://www.SafeElectricity.org)

Budget Program>>>

Applications are now open for the 2022 Budget Billing Program

SCPPD offers a budget billing program to all residential customer accounts. The budget billing period will follow the customer usage billings from January 1 to December 31 of each year. December will reflect the “settle-up” amount and thus close the budget year. Any amount owed the District will be paid in full by the customer. Any amount that appears as a credit balance will remain on the account and be adjusted for the new budget billing cycle.

If you are interested in applying for the 2022 budget cycle, please see our full procedure and application form on our website, www.scppd.com or stop by the office for a copy.

Applications will only be taken from December 1 to December 31, 2021



Holiday Closings

The Stanton County Public Power District office will be closed on Friday, December 24, 2021 for the Christmas holiday and Friday, December 31, 2021 in observance of the New Year holiday.



It's the Law – Call
Before You Dig!
1-800-331-5666



877-439-2228 www.scppd.com scppd@scppd.net
Like us on Facebook



For valuable, timely information on power outages or important updates
follow us on Twitter! @StantonCoPPD

