

October 2020 >>>

YOUR Public Power
Space Heaters & Electric Blankets
Energy Rebates
Heating Efficiency
Pole Top Rescue



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

EnLIGHTening NEWS



About Us >>>

Stanton County Public Power District: Board of Directors

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

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Check us out on Facebook & Twitter

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



Unique to Nebraska: Public Power And Husker Football

The fall of 2020 will be forever remembered as the year Husker football was cancelled! Many of us fans are mourning the decision by the Big 10 leadership to “postpone” football this fall. When I go to a game I always look forward to the drive; seeing the fans in red, all the flags displayed proudly, and the excitement that builds to kickoff!

The dawn of a new season always offered hope to loyal Husker fans. This year being no different... until the devastating decision was made. The leadership behind the decision to postpone is far removed from the passion we have here locally. Even with tremendous pressure applied from fans, players and their families, lawmakers, and Governor Ricketts this decision is extremely difficult to influence or reverse.

October is Public Power Month. This offers a chance to reflect on the benefit of Public Power and the rich history we have here in Nebraska. Public Power is much like Husker football, unique to the state and very rich in tradition. Just like our football team in Lincoln, many people across the state are passionate about Public Power. From Senator George Norris in the early days to the thousands of men and women that work in this industry today, we are all proud to be a part of the Public Power family here in Nebraska.

The postponement of football has been felt across the state by everyone from fans to businesses. The decision to postpone the season was far removed from those Husker fans. There is a valuable lesson we may want to apply to Public Power. We need to preserve what we have built here in Nebraska. As we look into the future of this industry, we must listen to our homeowners, farmers, and business owners. We cannot let outside influence change our industry, affecting us right here at home.

As we celebrate Public Power month, let us embrace the history we have and look to preserve what we have built here in Nebraska. I want to thank you all for the opportunity to serve our customers and we will do our part to keep the lights on this winter!



Manager Chad Waldow

Heating Safety >>>

Tips for Using Space Heaters and Electric Blankets

Don't let your efforts to stay warm put your safety at risk this winter. Space heaters and electric blankets can be efficient ways to stay warm, but they can also be dangerous. Here are some things to remember:



- Read and follow all directions.
- Check over heaters and blankets before use; cord should not be frayed, brittle, or cracked. The blanket should not have any charred or dark areas.
- Turn them off when you are not using them.
- Choose a space heater with a safety certification; look for the UL, ETL, or CSA mark on both heaters and blankets.
- Look for a space heater that has guards form heating elements and automatically shuts off if it is tipped over.
- Place space heaters out of high-traffic areas and on a level, hard, non-flammable surface – NOT on carpets, furniture, or countertops.
- Do not attempt to warm your entire home using space heaters. They can be useful in small areas, however your home heating system will do the job more efficiently.

Avoid Fires: Keep Flammable materials away from heaters!

Give me some *space...*



Space heaters need space. Papers, clothing, blankets, and other flammables should be kept at least 3 feet away.

EnergyWise Incentives >>>



2020 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 2020 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.



Energy Efficiency: Infiltration

Everyone uses energy to heat and cool their homes. In fact, most Nebraska homes use four times more energy per year to keep them warm than to keep them cool.

The forces of inadequate original construction and decay of building materials over time silently feed the infiltration monster hiding in so many homes. Ultimately, it leads to people asking, "Why is my electric bill so high?"

Infiltration is caused by wind, negative pressurization of the home, and air buoyancy forces combined with how these variables allow outdoor, unconditioned air into your living space. To put it simply, these intruders are leaks! Where do the biggest offenders occur?

According to the Department of Energy:

Floors, walls and ceilings (average 31%) - This includes recessed can lights that mount in an attic. Another common oversight is band joist areas, which are where the house's frame makes contact with the basement or foundation. This area on homes built prior to the 1970s was seldomly sealed, while newer homes may have missed proper sealing during construction.

Ductwork (average 14%) - You might think since most ductwork is inside the space you're trying to heat and cool, leaky ducts don't matter. They do. They can create pressure imbalances that draw outside air into your home.

Windows (average 10%) - Most people suspect windows as the main reason for energy loss in their home. In reality, unless your windows are of poor quality or have outlived their useful life, there's another lurking problem. While you might suspect the window itself, most infiltration usually occurs around the window and how it mounts through the wall. Caulk ages and cracks over time. If you feel a draft around the trim of your windows on windy days, you've got infiltration. Seal it up!

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



Pole Top Rescue >>>

Safety is always our number one priority



It is important that our linemen use the proper equipment and take the necessary steps to stay safe while operating on our power lines. As part of that on-going mission, all linemen are tested on "Pole-Top Rescue" every year to ensure swift, safe care is carried out, even if the unthinkable should happen. This year, there was additional training on bucket truck rapelling. If a fire would render a lineman stranded in the bucket, he could rappel out of the bucket to safety.



Harvest Safety

During the busy harvest season, take time to be safe around overhead power lines. Accidents are always possible, but usually preventable. If your equipment does hit a line – Call 911 and warn others to stay away until crews arrive.



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

The logo for the 811 service, featuring the number "811" in a stylized font with a shovel icon below it.The logo for Stanton County Public Power District, featuring the name "STANTON COUNTY" in a bold, red, serif font with several black arrows pointing upwards and to the right. Below it, "PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT" is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

877-439-2228 www.scppd.com scppd@scppd.net
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