

Breaker Box Safety Basics

We use electricity in our homes throughout the day, but we rarely think about how it gets to the wall outlets or switches. Distribution lines bring electricity to homes and most commonly connect to a house through a service drop. The electricity goes through the meter box to the service panel, which is typically found in a basement or garage. The service panel, often called a breaker box, is where breakers and fuses protect the wires inside your house from electrical overload.

With so much electricity funneling out of the breaker box through the rest of the home to your outlets and switches, it is important to not only know how to use a breaker box, but also how to do so safely.

AFCIs are installed directly in the breaker box and are designed to protect against fires caused by arcing faults in home electrical wiring. Arcing faults can be triggered by overloaded circuits, damaged wires, cracked wire insulation, loose/improper connections, faulty electrical equipment, and over-



heated electrical wires.

An AFCI monitors current flow and can distinguish between normal, working arcs and unwanted, dangerous arcs. When an unwanted arcing condition is detected, it shuts down the circuit. It is important to note that AFCIs do not provide protection against all of the possible circuit faults that can cause fires, but they are a significant step forward in electrical fire safety. Contact a qualified electrician to have them installed.

If an appliance is malfunctioning, if there is another electrical malfunction in your home, or if the circuit breaker flipped during a power outage, it may be necessary to cut off or switch on the power at the breaker box. If you must flip a switch at the break box, always remember to step away and look away. You want to protect your eyes and body just in case an arc should occur.

Never attempt to turn off power at the breaker box if you must stand in water to do so. If you touch the breaker box while standing in water, it could cause electric shock or death. If you cannot reach your breaker box safely, call your electric utility to shut off power at the meter.

Be sure to call a qualified electrician or your landlord if blowing fuses or tripping circuit breakers are a recurring problem. This means there is something wrong with your electrical system, and it needs to be inspected.

For more information on safety around electricity, visit SafeElectricity.org. ♦

2020 SUMMER INTERNS



Pictured above are Dylon Baum, Dillon Brown, Clay Johnson, and Tristan Sawyer-Kociemba. Pictured to the right is Keegan Clark.

Many businesses throughout the Custer Public Power District service territory provide job shadowing and internships. Custer Public Power is one of those businesses. This year Custer Public Power has had several job shadows and currently has five interns.

This year's interns are a Senior from Broken Bow, two 2020 Custer Public Power Utility Line Worker scholarship recipients, a 2019 Custer Public Power Utility Line Worker scholarship recipient who was an intern last year, and Keegan Clark who is a fourth-year college student completing a degree in Organizational and Relational Communications who has interned with Custer Public Power for three years.

Our Senior intern is Dylon Baum, son of Jason and Bobbi Baum. He is interning in the engineering department. Part of his job this summer is working with the GPS (Global Po-

sitioning System) and marking rotten poles.

What are the benefits of job shadowing? Job shadowing provides a high school student a snapshot into the life of a utility line worker and other departments. It also gives them a network outside of school for career development.

What are the benefits of internships? Internships help with industry insight, become part of the intern's resume, and provide a stepping-stone to full-time employment. Along with those benefits, internships help build relationships within the community and provide a support network for the intern as they start their college education.

For high school students, there are so many career choices. Custer Public Power District encourages students to start with job shadowing one of our departments. For students wanting to job shadow our line

workers, they will spend the day with one of our utility line construction crews.

As a scholarship recipient, there is the opportunity to intern before starting college and during college breaks. These internships are also part of our scholarship recipient's utility line worker college requirements.

If you are a high school student who is interested in learning more about the careers at Custer Public Power, or becoming a utility line worker, please call the Broken Bow office at 308-872-2451 and ask for Assistant Operations Manager Cindy Lindner for a job shadowing opportunity. If you would like more information on job shadowing in departments outside of the line worker department or applying for the Utility Line Worker Scholarship, call the above number and ask for Executive Assistant Tarin Burrows. ♦

Photographs Needed for the 2021 Calendar

Custer Public Power District serves all or portions of 13 counties: Custer, Loup, Blaine, Thomas, Hooker, McPherson, Logan, Sherman, Garfield, Brown, Cherry, Lincoln, and Dawson. Each year photographs are selected that represent the Custer Power service territory. The calendars are then distributed to our customers, assisted livings, and to anyone that would like one. The entry form below explains the requirements for submitting a photograph. It won't be long and 2021 will be here!



Custer Public Power's Photo Deadline is September 30, 2020



Photo Guidelines

1. Photo must be taken in CPPD Service territory
2. Photo must be horizontal orientation
3. Submit one form per entry
4. **Digital photos** of 300 dpi or higher, saved in raw/untouched format jpeg or tiff
5. Please keep the original, photos become property of CPPD and may be used on CPPD's website, social media and other printed publications.

2021 CPPD PHOTO CALENDAR ENTRY FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Location of Photo: _____

I grant my permission for Custer Public Power District to use this photo in the Custer PPD photo calendar, the Custer PPD website and in other printed publications or brochures developed by Custer PPD. I am the owner of the photograph and it is an original production.

Signature _____ Date _____

Send all entries to Tarin Burrows at PO Box 10 Broken Bow, NE 68822 or email tburrows@custerpower.com

Confetti Cucumber Salsa Recipe



Photography Credit: Elise Bauer

Ingredients

- 1 large cucumber or 2 small cucumbers (about 1/2 pound to 3/4 pound total), seeded and finely diced (peel first if the cucumber is thick-skinned, leave peel on if thin-skinned)
- 1/4 cup finely diced red onion
- 1/4 cup finely diced red, orange, or yellow bell pepper
- 2 Tbsp chopped fresh mint
- 1 Tbsp rice wine vinegar
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon minced jalapeño (more to taste)

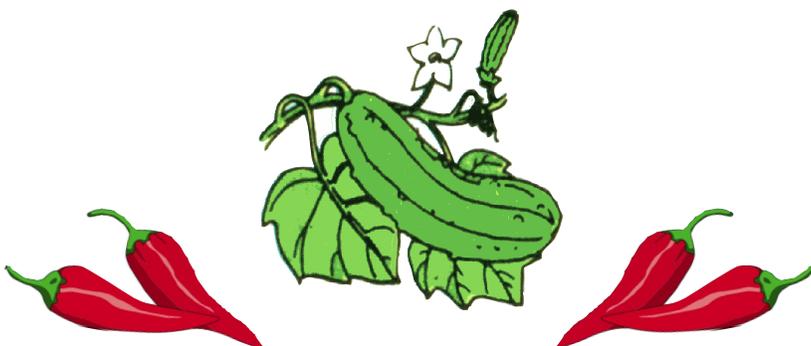
Directions

To make the salsa, place all of the salsa ingredients into a medium bowl, and gently stir to combine. Taste and add more jalapeño if you desire more heat.

Keeps for several days, covered and chilled in the refrigerator.

Perfect for serving with grilled chicken or seafood.

www.simplyrecipes.com/recipes/confetti_cucumber_salsa/



CUSTER CURRENTS

Newsletter of the

Custer Public Power District

Broken Bow, NE - Phone 872-2451

www.custerpower.com

Serving Custer, Loup, Blaine, Thomas, Hooker, McPherson, Logan and parts of Sherman, Garfield, Brown, Cherry, Lincoln, and Dawson Counties

Officers & Directors

- Brad Bartak, Merna.....President
- John Blakeman, Merna.....Vice President
- Greg Smith, Milburn.....Secretary
- Brad Howard, Litchfield.....Treasurer
- Tom Roberts, Loup City.....Asst. Treasurer
- Lloyd Ramsey, Broken Bow.....Director
- Wayne V. Licking, Thedford.....Director

Staff

- Rick Nelson.....General Manager
- Jerry Spanel.....Operations Manager
- Cheryl Taylor.....Director of Finance and Administration
- Dustin Miller.....Purchasing Agent

Board Meetings

The regular monthly meeting of the Custer Public Power District Board of Directors is on the last Thursday of each month, beginning at 9:00 a.m.(CDT) in the main office in Broken Bow on Hwy. 2.

An agenda for each regular meeting of the board is available for public inspection during business hours.

In the event of matters of an emergency nature or conflicts with other meeting dates, the Board of Directors will set changes. Any change in the monthly meeting date will be posted in the legal notice at the main headquarters building at Broken Bow and at each of the District's area service centers located in Callaway, Sargent, Stapleton and Thedford, Nebraska.

