

Summer's Around the Corner

By Tarin Burrows, Executive Assistant

Can you believe it is June already? Spring is ending quickly with June 21, the first day summer around the corner.

With the month of June, Custer Public Power would like to remind customers that June is National Safety Month. Whether you are at home, out on the lake, working in the field or pasture - Custer Power asks our customers to be aware of possible electrical hazards. Along with electrical hazards, the month of June in Nebraska is known for its severe weather.

Most Nebraskans enjoy fishing, boating, swimming, and hot tubs at some time during the summer months.



Water is a powerful conductor of electricity. Before enjoying your summer water activities, take time to check for possible hazards. Identify where possible water and electrical

contact could be made. Then check to see if any safety precautions need to be taken or whether maintenance needs to be done. A little time spent doing the initial summer preparations reduces the chances of a summer disaster.

If you are doing field work, notice where power lines are at. When moving farming equipment make sure you have clearance underlines. If you should make contact with a power line, stay inside your



vehicle. Even if the power line is on the ground, stay inside the vehicle unless there is an imminent risk of fire.

As the pivots start to be used, Custer Power asks farmers to not take shortcuts when servicing their pivots. Know where the master disconnect switch, pivot switch, and any other electrical shut offs are at and mark where underground electrical services are at.

For those digging projects make sure to call the **Digger's Hotline 811** for locates. Calling a few days before your project will make sure locating is done before you need to begin.

Safe Electricity has several tips for outdoor safety for children:



- Teach children to never play around pad-mounted transformers, solar panels, wind turbines, or electrical substations. If a ball or other toy goes over a substation fence, call your utility for help.

- Never climb trees near power lines. A tree may be inviting climbers, but trees near power lines could be conductors of electricity if branches are touching the wires. Even if branches are not touching power lines, they could if weight from a child is added.

Troubleshooting Irrigation Issues



Check out the Troubleshooting Irrigation Issues with Custer Power on YouTube on the Custer Public Power account.

YouTube



Check Meter:
If screen is blank...call CPPD.

If you have 1 or 2 blinking light bulbs in lower corner, this indicates partial power... call CPPD.

Is pivot in alignment?

Is there any safety issues?

Is main disconnect on?

Does any equipment appear burnt?

Do displays and voltage meter in pivot panel appear normal?

Green light pivot is operational.

Red & Green light pivot is under control.

No lights...*pivot has no or partial power. Check: Fuses, equipment, underground conductors, and overload relay.*

Next try hand position or bypass mode. If pivot is operational, problem probably is with customers equipment. You may need an irrigation technician.

Call Custer Power with...

Meter Number or Account Number

Driving Instructions

Phone Number

•Open areas are great places to fly kites and model airplanes, but do not fly them near overhead power lines or electrical substations. A kite string can conduct electricity from an overhead power line to the person on the ground.

•Storm fronts can move rapidly, and lightning is a potential danger 10 miles in advance of a storm. Make sure that your children know “*If thunder roars, go indoors*” and not to seek shelter under a tree or open picnic shelter.

•Ensure your children are protected from the electrical service connection to your home. Keep ladders or long poles stowed and away from youngsters who might be tempted to use them to reach the wires connected to your house. If you have added a room addition or deck, make sure the service connection remains well out of reach. Contact your local utility if you are unsure the distance is safe.

•If electric wires in your neighborhood have sagged for some reason or a tree limb has pushed the line out of place, keep your neighborhood safe by alerting your electric utility.

Custer Public Power would like to remind you that severe weather preparedness, starts before the storm.



Customers should have an emergency kit ready in case of a severe storm.

Your kit should have a flashlight, extra batteries, water, and ways to charge cell phones. Keep your meter or account number written in a place that is easily accessible when reporting outages.

After the storm, assess surrounding areas for possible down wires or objects caught in power lines. Be aware of potential water and electrical contact inside and outside of your home. *Report downed lines and outages to 1-888-749-2453.*

Safe Electricity reminds customers to only use generators outdoors only. Connect lights and appliances to the generator using extension cords. Do not connect directly to the home circuitry unless there is a transfer safety switch to isolate the power. Without that safety feature, electricity could “back feed” into the utility system, creating danger for anyone near lines; particularly, utility crews working to restore power.

Custer Public Power District wants our customers and their families to have a safe and enjoyable summer. For more tips go to: <https://www.safeelectricity.org/>

Karson Russell Receives Lineman Scholarship

Beginning in 1991, the Directors of Custer Public Power committed to providing a scholarship for individuals residing in Custer PPD’s service territory who were interested in pursuing a career in utility line work. Students receiving the scholarship also have an opportunity to intern with the District during their time in college.

This year’s scholarship was awarded to Karson Russell. Karson is the son of Kenton and Tara Russell. He recently graduated from Broken Bow High School and will be attending Northeast Community College as a part of the Utility Line Program.



SAFETY Sudoku

Place the word **SAFETY** in the grid so each column, row, and block only contain unique letters!



SAFETY tip:

Fly kites and model airplanes **away** from overhead power lines and other electrical equipment. Only fly them during good weather conditions in a large open area like a park or field.



Safe Electricity.org

Y		E		T	A
	T		E	F	
F	E		T		S
T		S		E	F
	S	F		Y	
A	Y		F		E

Answers:

E	S	F	T	Y	A
T	Y	A	F	S	E
F	E	Y	S	A	T
S	A	T	Y	E	F
Y	A	E	F	S	T
A	S	T	E	F	Y

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

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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 10:00 a.m. 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.



PLEASE MOVE OVER FOR EMERGENCY AND UTILITY CREWS

If you see police, firefighters, utility crews or other emergency personnel on the side of the road, please slow down and move over when possible.

Together, we can keep our crews safe.

