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Pictured: Jacob Kubicka, SPPD  
Lineworker, competing in the  
Nebraska Lineworkers Rodeo,  
Obstacle Course Event.

Photo Credit: John Gits





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# Introducing NEW LEADERS

We are pleased to announce the promotion of two employees into new leadership roles.

Todd Wilson was promoted from Grand Island Maintenance Supervisor to Area Manager. Grand Island lineworker Kody Knopik was selected to fill the Maintenance Supervisor position.



**TODD WILSON**



**KODY KNOPIK**

Together Todd and Kody will lead the construction and maintenance work for our Grand Island area lineworkers, who primarily serve customers in Hall County, as well as western Hamilton and Merrick Counties. This region includes Cairo, Wood River, Alda, Doniphan, Worms, Palmer and Phillips.

Todd began his career at SPPD in Minden on December 31, 1990. He transferred to Grand Island in 1991, and became the Maintenance Supervisor in 2009.

Kody began his service at SPPD in Hastings on July 5, 2005 and transferred to Grand Island when the District's Subtransmission Construction Crew was formed later that year. He transferred to the Grand Island Area crew in 2011.

Todd and Kody are off and running in their new roles, and look forward to serving the needs of their customers.

## October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

A strong password can make all the difference in protecting your personal information. We recommend the use of a strong password for your SmartHub account, and all of your password-protected financial accounts. Follow these tips for stronger passwords.



**DO:**

- Change the manufacturer's Wi-Fi password on your router.
- Use two-factor authentication.
- Use unique phrases (like lyrics to your favorite song) to remember passwords.

**DON'T:**

- Don't use common words or numbers like "password" or "1234."
- Don't use personal details like your date of birth.
- Don't use the same password for multiple accounts.

**Do Your Part. #BeCyberSmart**



# LOOK UP-LOOK OUT FOR A SAFE HARVEST

Agriculture...its the backbone of our country. Our livelihood greatly depends on the crops provided by American farmers. In addition to being one of the most labor-intensive professions, farming is also considered one of the most dangerous jobs in the United States.

The hard work and exhaustive labor are tough but rushing the job to save time can be extremely dangerous—even deadly—when farming near electrical equipment.

Every year, we see incidents where tractors and other farming equipment accidentally collide with utility poles and power lines. These dangerous situations can be avoided by looking up and around your surroundings when operating large farm machinery. If you're preparing for harvest season, please keep the following safety tips in mind:

- **Maintain a 10-foot clearance** around all utility equipment in all directions.
- **Use a spotter and flags** to maintain safe distances from power lines and other electrical equipment when working in the field.
- If your equipment makes contact with an energized or downed power line, **contact 9-1-1 immediately and remain inside the vehicle** until the power line is de-energized. In case of smoke or fire, exit the cab by making a solid jump out of the cab (without touching it), and hop away to safety.
- **Consider equipment and cargo extensions of your vehicle.** Lumber, hay, tree limbs, irrigation pipes and even bulk materials can conduct electricity, so keep them out of contact with electrical equipment.

September 19-25 is National Farm Health and Safety Week, but practicing safety on the farm year-round yields positive results. We hope you never find yourself in a situation where farming equipment contacts power lines or poles, but if you do, we hope you'll remember these safety tips and to **"Look Up, Look Out and Live"**.

INFORMATION SOURCE: ABBY BERRY, NRECA



**National Farm Health & Safety Week  
September 19-25, 2021**

## POWER FACTOR ADJUSTMENTS & REBATES

SPPD has begun a two-season process to improve power factor for irrigation customers. Power factor readings below 0.93 will see a power factor adjustment applied to future billings. The installation of a properly-sized capacitor to correct power factor to 0.93 or greater will eliminate power factor adjustments.

A **power factor calculator** is available on our website, which illustrates the potential cost of a power factor adjustment.

Customers who choose to install a capacitor to correct their power factor may apply for a \$100 incentive. The **application form** is available on our website, and complete terms can be found on the application form. For more information contact the Irrigation Services Department at SPPD.



# NATIONAL DRIVE ELECTRIC WEEK

## Home Charging Options for Electric Vehicles

As electric vehicles (EVs) become more commonplace in Nebraska, you will likely hear references made to the levels of charging available for EVs. There are three common EV charging levels: Level One, Level Two and DC Fast Charge.

### Level One Charging

Level One is the most basic charging level. With this option, an EV will typically include an adapter that plugs into a typical 120-volt outlet. This is the easiest and least upfront investment, but it takes much longer to charge an EV.

### Level Two Charging

Level Two is about 3-5 times faster than Level One, but this level of charging often requires separate purchases and installation. The EV charger is plugged into a 240-volt outlet, which is also used for large appliances, like a clothes dryer. Most homes do not include a 240-volt outlet in garages, so the outlet must be installed by a licensed professional. You may see Level Two charging stations at shopping malls, office buildings and multi-family community spaces.

### DC Fast Charging

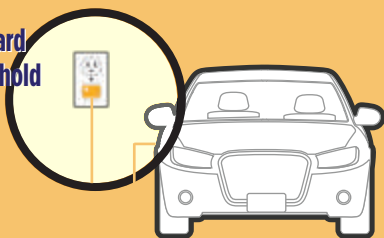
DC Fast Charge stations are typically seen near high-traffic public areas, like gas stations, rather than in homes. This is the fastest charging level, with the ability to charge an EV up to 80% in under 30 minutes. As EVs continue to become more popular, you can expect to see more DC Fast Charge stations throughout Nebraska.

If you are considering the purchase of an EV, please contact SPPD. We offer rebates toward the purchase of EVs and for ChargePoint charging stations (Level Two). We strongly recommend connecting with us prior to the purchase of an EV if you are interested in applying for a rebate.

## Electric Vehicle Charging Levels

### AC Level One

Standard Household Outlet



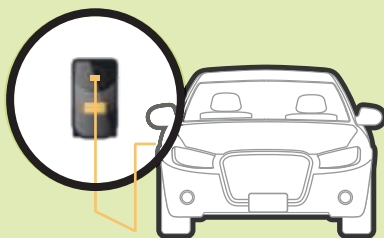
**VOLTAGE:**  
120V 1-Phase AC

**AMPS:**  
12-16 Amps

**CHARGING LOADS:**  
1.4 to 1.9 kW

**VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:**  
3-5 Miles per Hour

### AC Level Two



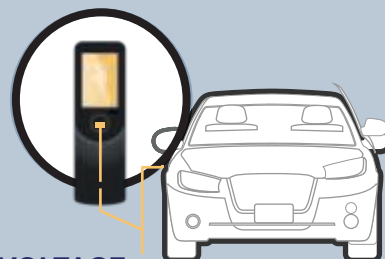
**VOLTAGE:**  
208V or 240V 1-Phase AC

**AMPS:**  
12-80 Amps (typ. 32 Amps)

**CHARGING LOADS:**  
2.5 to 19.2 kW (typ. 6.6kW)

**VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:**  
10-20 Miles per Hour  
20+ for some EV models

### DC Fast Charge



**VOLTAGE:**  
208V or 480V 3-Phase AC

**AMPS:**  
<100 Amps

**CHARGING LOADS:**  
50-350 kW

**VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:**  
60-80 Miles in 20 Minutes

Sources: Advanced Energy and EPA

# SEPTEMBER 25TH – OCTOBER 3RD



## Come see an EV for yourself!

### 2021 Ford Mustang Mach-E

On Saturday, October 2nd, SPPD will be attending two local parades and showcasing a 2021 Ford Mustang Mach-E.

First, we will cruise through the Harvest of Harmony parade in Grand Island in the morning. Next, we will travel to the Doniphan Fall Festival and will take a spin through town during the afternoon parade.

The best opportunity to get a close-up look at the vehicle will be in Doniphan. If you are considering the purchase of an EV, or have questions about establishing a charging facility in your home, look for us in town shortly after the parade has finished. We will share our observations of the vehicle, and tell you more about incentive programs for ChargePoint charging stations.

We are excited to “test” this vehicle for ourselves, and we look forward to showing it to you as well!



### GO-EV Rebate Options

Prior to making a purchase, contact Sam Reinke at SPPD for complete qualifications and guidelines on rebates.

#### New EV Purchase & ChargePoint Station

**\$4,500**

- \$4,500 incentive for the purchase of a new battery electric vehicle and ChargePoint Home charging station.
- Incentive applies only to new battery electric vehicles.
- The customer must also purchase and install a ChargePoint 32-amp, Wi-fi-enabled home charging station. The vehicle's registration and charging station installation location must be the same.

#### Charging Station Only

**\$500**

- \$500 incentive for the installation of a residential vehicle charging station.
- ChargePoint 32 Amp, Wi-Fi enabled station, with internet wireless connectivity.

#### Pre-Wiring Incentive

**\$200-\$400**

- For new home construction, an incentive is available for the inclusion of EV charging station pre-wiring, totaling \$200.
- For existing homes, an incentive is available for the addition of in home pre-wiring for an EV charging station, for 100% of the costs up to a maximum of \$400.

# Read More About CURRENT DISTRICT NEWS

## Public Power Week Is October 3-9, 2021

Southern Public Power District takes tremendous pride in serving our customers, observing the principles of public power since 1936. While many things have changed the past 85 years, our commitment to our customers remains steadfast and true. We are pleased to offer these key advantages as a public power utility:

### AFFORDABLE

We are not pressured to accommodate investors with maximized profits. Excess earnings are invested back into facilities for added reliability, or returned to customers in the form of lower rates or production cost adjustments.

### RELIABLE

Our continuous investment into our facilities assures that our system delivers electricity to your home, farm or business efficiently. We are highly responsive and spring into action swiftly and safely when outages occur.

### DIVERSE

Nebraska has a diverse mix of generation resources that serve the needs of consumers throughout the state. NPPD, our wholesale energy provider, currently provides a 65% carbon-free generation mix.

### LOCAL CONTROL

Decisions that impact your rates and service are made locally. In fact, the decision-makers that guide our operations are elected by YOU. They are invested in our communities and carefully consider the implications of their decisions.

## Second Quarter Grants Announced

SPPD's Operation ROUND UP Board of Directors approved the distribution of \$22,700 in funds to ten applicants from the Second Quarter of 2021.

Since its inception in 2014, a total of \$398,215 has been awarded to projects throughout our service region.

Applications for the Third Quarter of 2021 are due September 30th. You can learn more about this program on our website, or contact LeAnne Doose at SPPD.



<b>BERTRAND FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>	Refilling Station for SCBA	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>JAYDEN QUANDT: EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT</b>	GaGa Ball Pit at 1-R School	<b>\$1,200</b>
<b>FRANKLIN EMS</b>	Power Lift System	<b>\$2,000</b>	<b>AMERICAN LEGION: CAMPBELL</b>	Emergency Exits, Fire Doors, Ramp	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>THE LITTLE CARDINALS</b>	Science & Math Tools	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>CAMPBELL CEMETERY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE</b>	Fence	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>PARTNERS IN EDUCATION: LOOMIS</b>	Greenhouse	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>HALL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY</b>	Historical Markers, Doniphan	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>VILLAGE OF BLOOMINGTON</b>	Lighting & Flooring Updates	<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>HALL COUNTY HERO FLIGHT</b>	Nebraska State Veterans Cemetery	<b>\$2,500</b>



# Results From The 2021 NEBRASKA LINEWORKERS RODEO

## Lineworker Rodeo Returns To Nebraska

The Nebraska Lineworker Rodeo was held on July 30th in Broken Bow, Nebraska, after a year-long hiatus to the pandemic.

This year saw the largest attendance since this event was initiated in 2012. More than 50 lineworkers demonstrated their talents and competed in a variety of categories that tested a range of skills.

SPPD was proud to have six men competing this year and they made quite an impression! SPPD lineworkers Jacob Kubicka and Cal Narber competed for the first time in the Apprentice Division. Our more experienced repeat competitors participated in the Journeyman Team Division, with Sam Gnagy and Tyler Fuelberth pairing up, and Myles Butt and Travis Forbis.

The impressive results are listed at right, and images captured from this day are available on our website.



### HONORS RECEIVED:

**Jacob Kubicka:** First Place Overall, Apprentice Division; Second Place, Speed Climb; First Place, Obstacle Climb.

**Cal Narber:** Third Place, Speed Climb.

**Myles Butt & Travis Forbis:** Third Place Overall, Journeyman Team Division; First Place, Hurtman Rescue.

**Sam Gnagy/Tyler Fuelberth:** Second Place, Hurtman Rescue.

**Tyler Fuelberth:** First Place, Mutual Aid.

**Myles Butt:** Second Place, Mutual Aid.

## Lineworker Scholarships: Now Available for 2022 Applicants

SPPD awards utility lineworker scholarships on an annual basis to recent high school graduates who plan to attend an accredited school for utility line study.

Applicants interested in applying for a one-year lineworker program scholarship are eligible to apply for \$1,000, and two-year program applicants are eligible to apply for \$2,000. All details and requirements are detailed in our Scholarship Application Form.

Scholarship applicants must currently reside within Adams, Franklin, Hall, Hamilton, Kearney, Merrick or Phelps Counties in Nebraska, and agree to serve a 12-week summer internship with Southern in cooperation with the school attended. The deadline to apply for a Utility Line Program Scholarship is April 1, 2022. Contact Brad Kool for more information.

# PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR COLD WEATHER

Your house acts like a chimney in the winter--cool air enters the house in lower areas and attempts to exit in the warmer, higher areas.

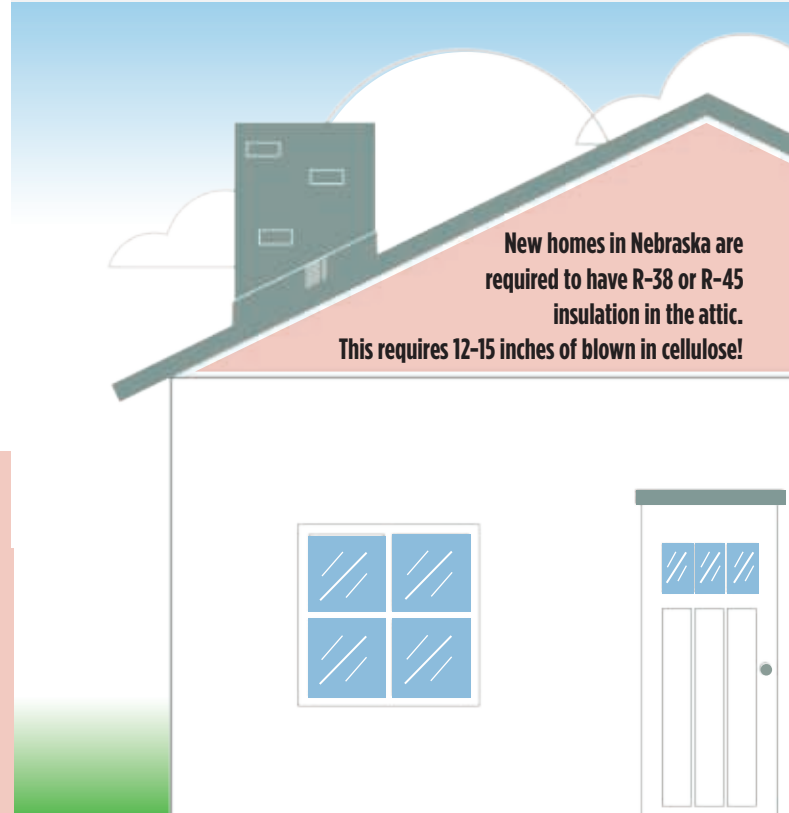
In the summer, attics can rise to as much as 140° F when the home's interior is 75° F. That's a big difference!

Appropriate levels of insulation in your attic can help prevent extreme temperature differences and leaks that compromise your comfort.

If your home's attic has an average six inches of insulation or less, and you correct this level by adding at least six inches or R-19, you may qualify for the EnergyWise Attic Insulation Incentive.

## ENERGYWISE ATTIC INSULATION INCENTIVE

The Attic Insulation Incentive offers \$0.15 per square foot with a maximum incentive of \$300 per residential dwelling. This incentive is available for customers utilizing a heat pump, electric furnace or other electric heat options such as baseboard, radiant, etc.) This incentive is not available for new construction. For more information, visit our website: [southernpd.com](http://southernpd.com).



## RUSTIC CARAMEL APPLE TART

### INGREDIENTS

- 2/3 C. all-purpose flour
- 1 T. sugar
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 1/4 C. cold butter, cubed
- 6-1/2 tsp. cold water
- 1/8 tsp. vanilla extract

### FILLING:

- 1-1/2 C. chopped, peeled tart apples
- 3 T. sugar
- 1 T. all-purpose flour

### TOPPING:

- 1 tsp. sugar
- 1/4 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1 large egg
- 1 T. water
- 2 T. caramel ice cream topping, warmed

In a large bowl, combine flour, sugar and salt; cut in butter until crumbly. Gradually add water and vanilla, tossing with a fork until dough forms a ball. Cover and refrigerate until easy to handle, about 30 minutes.

Preheat oven to 400°. On a lightly floured surface, roll dough into a 10-in. circle. Transfer to a parchment-lined baking sheet. Combine the filling ingredients; spoon over crust to within 2 in. of edges. Fold up edges of crust over filling, leaving center uncovered. Combine sugar and cinnamon; sprinkle over filling. Whisk egg and water; brush over crust.

Bake until crust is golden and filling is bubbly, 25-30 minutes. Using parchment, slide tart onto a wire rack. Drizzle with caramel topping. Serve warm.

**NUTRITION FACTS:** 1 slice: 298 calories, 13g fat (8g saturated fat), 77mg cholesterol, 218mg sodium, 42g carbohydrate (24g sugars, 1g fiber), 4g protein.

SOURCE: Recipe & Photo: Taste of Home

RECIPE

