



NEWS MAGAZINE

**MAY IS ELECTRICAL
SAFETY MONTH**

**LOOK INSIDE FOR
POWER FACTOR
POLICY UPDATES**





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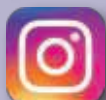
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The latest in EMPLOYEE NEWS

ENERGY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

In March, the District combined the Irrigation Services Department with the Energy Services Department. This merger allows Energy Services staff to work together to serve irrigation customers, key accounts and facilitate the District's energy efficiency programs.

Energy Services is led by Sam Reinke. Becky Lesiak, Energy Services CSR, is new to this team and her experience with estimating and mapping will be a tremendous asset to the department.

Sam's experience with customer service at SPPD dates back to 2006, and Becky has worked at SPPD for six years.

We encourage our irrigation customers to reach out to Sam or Becky if you have any questions relating to your irrigation service. We especially encourage you to speak with them for answers to your irrigation capacitor policy questions. You can read more about recent policy updates on Page 3.



SAM REINKE

Energy Services
Manager



BECKY LESIAK

Energy Services
CSR

SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

We are pleased to announce that 2022 Aurora High School graduate Bryce Barger has been awarded a Utility Lineworker Scholarship for the upcoming academic year. Bryce will begin his education this Fall at Metro Community College in Omaha through an accredited lineworker program.

Bryce's scholarship will total \$1,000 upon his successful completion of Metro's one-year program.

We are excited for Bryce on his upcoming endeavors, and we wish him the best in his studies! To learn more about scholarships to be awarded in 2023, visit our website.



Attention IRRIGATION CUSTOMERS

POWER FACTOR POLICY UPDATES

SPPD's Board of Directors has authorized several adjustments to our power factor policy for irrigation customers. This action was taken because we heard from our customers that more time is needed to secure capacitor equipment and to study the appropriate sizing for your systems. Supply chain issues have also created challenges, as well as scheduling issues with electricians and pivot service providers who are already working hard to prepare their customers for the upcoming season.

We also know that many people need a little more time to understand the information and learn more about how the policy affects your system and your billing. There are three key changes for you to know as we prepare for this season, and plan for the future:

1. Effective dates for capacitor installations is now May 1, 2023, or prior to irrigating in 2023.
2. The minimum power factor adjustment will now be equal to the requirements set forth by NPPD, which is currently 90%.
3. Capacitor installation incentives have been revised with deadlines established for 2022 and 2023.

MORE INFORMATION:
southernpnd.com/powerfactor

IMPORTANT DATES FOR POWER FACTOR

<p>CAPACITOR INSTALLATION REBATES The sooner, the better!</p> <p>Install By: December 31, 2022 You'll receive up to \$400 for completed installations</p> <p>Or, Install By: December 31, 2023 You'll receive up to \$200 for completed installations</p>	<p>I ALREADY RECEIVED A REBATE</p> <p>If you already received a \$100 rebate, we will make it right! You will receive your remaining rebate for a total of up to \$400.</p> <p>You'll receive that check by MAY 31, 2022</p>	<p>WHEN SHOULD I INSTALL CAPACITORS?</p> <p>Although they are not required, capacitors that correct power factor to at least 90% will help you avoid a power factor adjustment on your bill. Install capacitors by MAY 1, 2023 Or before irrigating.</p>	<p>WHEN WILL I SEE THE FIRST POWER FACTOR ADJUSTMENT ON MY BILL?</p> <p>If your power factor is below 90%, you'll see your first power factor adjustment for your summer 2023 usage, which bills in SEPTEMBER 2023</p>
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REMAINING REBATES DUE TO PARTICIPATING CUSTOMERS: MAY 31										DEADLINE: \$400 REBATE DEC 31				REBATES												DEADLINE: \$200 REBATE DEC 31			
CAPACITOR REBATES WILL BE DISCONTINUED IN 2024.																													
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CAPACITORS & ADJUSTMENTS

Electrical Safety Month

SAFETY AT HOME

The Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) reports that an average of 51,000 electrical home structure fires occur each year, claiming almost 500 lives, injuring more than 1,400 people, and causing more than \$1.3 billion in property damage. Additionally, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission reports that nearly 400 people are electrocuted in the U.S. each year.

Many electrocutions and resulting home fires are preventable. But prevention only occurs when people understand the basics of electrical safety and follow safe practices.

May is National Electrical Safety Month. We will be sharing valuable safety tips with you this month, and we encourage you to follow our social media pages to learn more. You can also brush up on your electrical safety knowledge by visiting southernpd.com/safetymonth.

As you begin to think about your home's electrical system, you may already be aware of improvements necessary for improving safety. Hiring an electrician to conduct this dangerous work is necessary. If you are uncertain what to look for in an electrician to assist with your system improvements, we'd like to offer the following tips to help you choose a professional that will conduct work safely and efficiently.

Five Tips for Hiring an Electrician

A licensed electrician can help with a variety of home projects from lighting upgrades to full renovations. Keep the following tips in mind if you're looking to hire an electrician.



1. Hire a licensed, qualified electrician for the job.

Look for a master electrician to manage the project. Master electricians have the most experience and will often oversee the work of a journey-level electrician or apprentice.

2. Make sure the electrician is insured.

Seasoned electricians know the importance of protecting themselves in case of an accident.

3. Read all the reviews.

Hire an electrician that has several positive reviews - not just one or two. Read reviews on different sites, like Nextdoor, Yelp and HomeAdvisor, and consider asking your neighbors for recommendations.

4. Determine your budget. Get two quotes.

Knowing your budget upfront helps move the process along. Prices can greatly vary, so get multiple quotes (at least two).

5. Talk timeline.

Some electricians accidentally overbook projects. If your job is time-sensitive, convey that early on and discuss a realistic timeline with the electrician.

Electrical Safety Month

WORKING SAFELY ON THE FARM

Electrical accidents happen when you aren't aware of your surroundings.

Look up.
Look out.
LIVE!

TIPS FOR BEST PRACTICES ON THE FARM

ASSURE EQUIPMENT CLEARANCE

- Inspect entrances into fields to ensure adequate clearance for equipment.
- Electricity can arc through the air between the line and the grounded equipment. So keep cultivators, sprayers and planters **AT LEAST 10 FEET** from power lines and electrical facilities.
- Move irrigation pipe and other farm equipment with caution. Aluminum pipe is lightweight and easy to carry, but prone to shifting cause by wind or poor balance.

MAINTAIN VISUALS

- Utilize a spotter to assure proper clearance when entering driveways or fields. The extra eyes can also help when maneuvering large equipment.
- Use mutually understood hand signals with your spotter as you work together to maneuver equipment safely.

DO NOT COME INTO CONTACT

- Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance.
- If your equipment contacts a power line, remain inside the vehicle until linemen from SPPD arrive to de-energize the line. Stepping out of the equipment creates a path from the equipment to the ground, and electricity will use YOU as a path.

COMMUNICATE

- Talk to anyone helping you on your farm during planting season, especially those who are not accustomed to doing agricultural work. Remind everyone of safety practices and review hazards daily.

OTHER HAZARDS

- Be cautious if you are tired. Often, when you are putting in long hours and short changing yourself on sleep, your level of awareness and reaction time is minimized.

Operation Round UP GRANT NEWS



2022 FIRST QUARTER GRANT RECIPIENTS

SPPD's Operation ROUND UP Board of Directors approved the distribution of \$23,462 in funds to eleven applicants for the First Quarter of 2022. Since its inception in 2014, a total of \$444,577 has been awarded to projects throughout our service region.

Applications for the second quarter of 2022 are due June 30th. Learn more about this program by visiting www.southernnpd.com, or contact LeAnne Doose at Southern Public Power District.

VILLAGE OF GILTNER	Tree Replacement	\$2,337
CAIRO STEERING COMMITTEE	Ballfield Bathrooms	\$2,500
VILLAGE OF BERTRAND	Swimming Pool Equipment	\$2,500
KENESAW HERITAGE MUSEUM	Electrical Equipment	\$2,500
PAULINE AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY	Windows	\$1,500
STICK CREEK KIDS	Tables, Chairs & Shelving	\$2,500

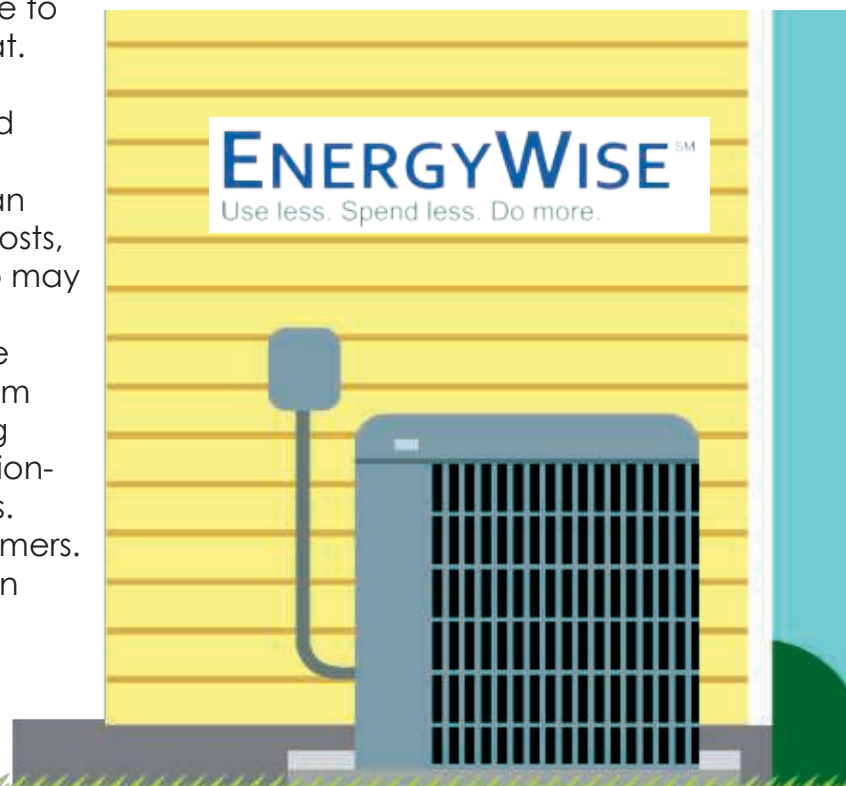
ZACH MILLSAP EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT	GaGa Ball Pit	\$1,200
KEARNEY COUNTY EMERGENCY MNGT	Emergency Response Trailer	\$2,500
PLATTE VALLEY MUTUAL AID	Handheld Radios	\$2,500
WOOD RIVER VOLUNTEER FIRE	TV for Training	\$1,500
DONIPHAN RECREATION ASSOCIATION	Home Run Fence	\$1,925

ENERGYWISE REBATE: COOLING SYSTEM TUNE-UP

If you haven't already, NOW is the time to prepare your cooling system for summer heat. Regular tune-ups on your cooling system are helpful in assuring efficient performance, and ultimately, savings in your cooling costs.

Systems that have been neglected can yield a savings of 5 to 15-percent in energy costs, or more, if you invest in a tune-up! A tune-up may also extend the life of your unit.

SPPD offers a \$30 EnergyWise incentive to homeowners that have their cooling system tuned-up by an HVAC contractor. Qualifying systems include residential central-air conditioners, air source and water source heat pumps. This incentive is available to residential customers. If you would like to learn more and access an application for the Cooling System Tune Up Incentive, log onto our website at southernnpd.com.



Prepare Now For SEVERE WEATHER

PLAN AHEAD FOR SEVERE WEATHER

Most of us are familiar with safety procedures when severe weather strikes in Nebraska. But in the moment, it is easy to forget the most basic response steps when your adrenaline is flowing.

We strongly advise you to plan ahead. Talk to your family about your response to severe weather, including tornadoes. Know where you will meet after a storm, stock your disaster kit with essentials, and review shelter locations for the places where your time is spent during the summer.

When power outages occur, CALL us at 800-579-3019. Be prepared to share your account information, especially if you are calling from a phone number that is different than your primary account phone number. All the information you will need is listed on your most recent billing statement. Keep that information inside your disaster kit.

If you are considering the installation of a generator for use during lengthy outages, it is best to do your research rather than making a quick purchase. Generators are available in both portable and standby configurations, and are built with varying capacities for different household sizes. After you choose your ideal unit, choose a qualified electrician to help you with installation of a double throw switch. You can also take advantage of Generlink,--an emergency transfer switch available through SPPD.

Visit southernpd.com/generlink to learn more or contact our Energy Services Department.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Keeping your contact information up-to-date is a key requirement for our accounts and billing process, and it assures we can respond to your calls efficiently during power outages. When we experience large-scale outages, our call center has the ability to answer calls on an automated basis. This allows larger volumes of calls to be recorded, and it does so efficiently.

In order to accommodate incoming calls this way, your phone numbers must be accurate and up-to-date in your account profile. If you call from a number listed on your account, the system will recognize you and will easily identify the location of your meter. Also, if you are calling from a different phone number, you can manually enter a number listed on your account to allow the system to access your information. This process helps to prevent longer waits that can happen during major outage events, so be sure your phone numbers are current so the system can work efficiently for you!.

If you would like to check the status of your contact information, please reach out to our Customer Services Department, or review your account information on SmartHub.



BE PREPARED.



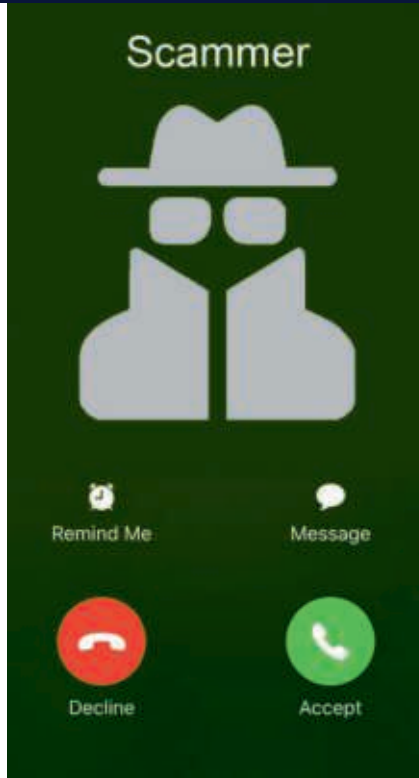
GENERATORS BELONG OUTDOORS.

BEWARE OF SCAMMERS

It's the same game but with new tricks. Not only will a scammer try to fool you with the claim of an unpaid bill, but they may also try to trick you into believing you have a refund due to you from SPPD.

If you receive a call that is suspicious, hang up. Call SPPD directly and we will verify the status of your account.

NEVER provide your financial information.



**VERIFY ACCOUNT STATUS:
800-579-3019**

**Offices will be closed Memorial Day:
MONDAY, MAY 30**

RECIPE

PATCHWORK QUILT PASTA SALAD

INGREDIENTS

- 1 (1-oz) pkg. rotini/corkscrew pasta
- 1 (16-oz.) pkg. frozen mixed vegetables, thawed
- 1 (15.25-oz.) can kidney beans, drained
- 1 ½ C. finely chopped celery
- 1 cucumber - peeled, seeded and chopped
- ½ C. finely chopped green bell pepper
- ½ C. finely chopped onion
- 2/3 C. cider vinegar
- 2 T margarine
- 2/3 C. sugar
- 1 T. all-purpose flour
- ½ tsp. salt
- 1 T. prepared brown mustard

In a large bowl combine cooked pasta, mixed vegetables, kidney beans, celery, cucumber, green pepper and onion.

To make the dressing combine in a saucepan over medium heat: vinegar, margarine, sugar, flour, salt and brown mustard; bring to boil. Continue to cook for 5 minutes stirring frequently. Cool completely.

Pour cooled dressing over bowl of vegetables. Toss to distribute dressing evenly. Cover tightly and store in refrigerator.

NUTRITION FACTS:

Per Serving: 171 calories; protein 5.3g; carbohydrates 32.8g; fat 2.5g; sodium 243.5mg. Full Nutrition

Check out our
"Salads" board on
Pinterest for more
delicious recipes!

