



Prepare For Weather-Related Outages

You've all been there, standing in a long line at the local grocery store, stocking up on items to get you through a major winter storm. Too often, we wait until we know a storm is coming before we take steps to ready ourselves for power outages. We would like to urge you to begin your plans NOW, rather than waiting until the forecast calls for the worst. You likely cannot prepare for everything right now, but there are things you can do to shorten your list!

First, check out your Emergency Preparedness Kit. If you don't have one, GET ONE! The items are very basic, but very helpful when you are in the dark. Flashlights. Portable Radios. Batteries to power them. First Aid Kits. Your kit will look different according to your own needs. If you don't have a kit and need a place to start, this website will help you: www.ready.gov/build-a-kit.

Second, if you are planning to use a generator for the first time, call an electrical contractor NOW to assure you have a properly functioning double throw switch. Such a device assures that power does not feed back onto our power lines, posing a life threatening hazard for our linemen. An electrical contractor will be hard to find if you wait until the threat of a winter storm is imminent.

Third, if you utilize electrically-powered medical equipment, or have a family member who does, it is always a good idea to have a back up plan. We work hard to restore power as quickly as possible, but we also know that Nebraska storms can linger on for days. Reach out to your friends and neighbors if you utilize this equipment...and communicate!

Finally, take a good look at your utility bill. It contains valuable information to help us identify the location of your home, farm or business, including phone numbers and account numbers. Consider placing a copy of your bill in your emergency kit.

Remember that when storms occur and you need to report an outage, you must give us a PHONE CALL. Our social media pages are intended for the mass dissemination of outage and safety-related information, not for reporting power outages.

There are many other preparations you can do to assure your readiness for a power outage. When the next storm threatens, we will do our best to pass on these tips to you. If you'd like to consider other steps you can take, this link offers some great tips: <https://www.ready.gov/power-outages>.

SHORTBREAD BITES

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 1/4 c. all-purpose flour
- 3 T sugar
- 1/2 c. butter (no substitutions)
- 1 T. red and green nonpareils or sprinkles, or 1/2 c. mini baking bits

PREPARATION:

1. Preheat oven to 325° F.
2. In food processor with knife blade attached, pulse flour and sugar until combined. Add butter and pulse until dough begins to come together. Place dough in medium bowl. Gently knead in nonpareils or baking bits until evenly blended and dough forms a ball.
3. On lightly floured waxed paper, pat dough into 8" by 5" rectangle; freeze 15 minutes. Cut dough into 1/2-inch squares. Place squares, 1/2 inch apart, on ungreased large cookie sheet.
4. Bake cookies 18 to 20 minutes or until lightly browned on bottom. Transfer cookies to wire rack to cool. Repeat with remaining dough. Store cookies in tightly covered container at room temperature up to 1 week, or in freezer up to 3 months.



SPD Newsletter

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LIGHTING THE WAY

Approved Budget Establishes Work Plan for 2018

In November, Southern's Board of Directors approved the Revenue, Expense and Capital Budgets for 2018. Overall, operating expenses for the upcoming year are slated to increase by 4.78 percent, from \$10.86 million in 2017 to \$11.38 million in 2018. The District's capital improvements budget outlines an aggressive work plan for the upcoming year, but the budget will decrease by 1.32%, totaling \$17.62 million.

Despite the increase in our operating expenses for the upcoming year, we are anticipating very minimal to no impact to your electric rates. This will be an item reviewed by our Board in early 2018. Watch your future newsletters for more information about your rates for the upcoming year.

ROUND UP Announces Third Quarter Grant Recipients

Southern's Operation ROUND UP Board of Directors approved the distribution of \$16,900 in funds to 8 applicants during the Third Quarter of 2017. Since its inception in 2014, a total of \$144,049 has been applied toward projects throughout our service region!

In this newsletter we are pleased to share with you the recipients of grant funds and a brief description of each project. Currently, the program is in its fourth quarter for the year, and applications are due December 29th. You can learn more about the program at www.southernpd.com.

VILLAGE OF FUNK, \$2,500

Swing Set
A new swing set will be added to existing playground equipment at Person Park in Funk.

FRIENDS OF NAPONEE, \$2,500

Playground Equipment
New playground equipment will be installed in Naponee Park, including ground cover, landscaping and benches.

YWCA ADAMS COUNTY, \$1,500

Laundry Appliances
A washer and dryer set will be utilized to clean donated professional clothing provided to women through the Career Services program, which provides job search, resume assistance and interview coaching. Units will also provide cleaning for the food programs that serve 100+ youth Monday-Friday.

CAMPBELL AREA FOUNDATION, \$2,500

Boulevard Improvement
The Boulevard is the centerpiece of the Village of Campbell, improvements will include a new brick monument, flagpole and sprinklers for the grass.

COVENANT CEDARS BIBLE CAMP, \$2,500

Refrigeration
Three stainless steel walk-in coolers that were donated to Covenant Cedars require three-phase service, and will be modified to be compatible with the facility's single-phase service.

HILDRETH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, \$1,500

Light Bar Replacement
Light bars will be replaced on two of the fire department's units, enabling the units to be safely dispatched to emergency sites.

FUNK RURAL FIRE DISTRICT, \$2,500

Communication Tower
A new tower will be constructed for an antenna for the fire department's communication system.

HOLSTEIN RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT, \$1,400

Thermal Imaging Camera
A thermal imaging camera will be purchased for use by the fire department.



This moving scene was captured at the Veteran's Day Parade in Central City by Laura Lovejoy. Pictured displaying the American Flag are Matt Lovejoy and Myles Butt.



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www.southernpd.com

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This newsletter is published as a service to Southern Power District's customers.

Comments or questions?

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Achievements In Service

Please join us in congratulating the individuals featured on this page. These people have reached a milestone in their employment with Southern Public Power District in 2017. In all, these fourteen employees have provided a total of 200 years of service to our customers, and represent a variety of roles in both lineman duties, customer services and management.



NICK DEAN
Journeyman Lineman
Holdrege
5 Years

NEAL NIEDFELDT
President/CEO
Grand Island
5 Years

HUNTER PRINCE
Journeyman Lineman
Grand Island
5 Years

COLBY EASTERBERG
Foreman
Grand Island
10 Years

JEREMY IMUS
Journeyman Lineman
Grand Island
10 Years



DONOVAN SCHNEIDER
Journeyman Lineman
Hastings
10 Years



DON FISHLER
Storekeeper
Central City
15 Years



BRYAN SATTERLY
Journeyman Lineman
Hastings
15 Years



JON SUNDBERG
Journeyman Lineman
Hastings
15 Years



TERRY FIERSTEIN
Leadman
Grand Island
20 Years



JASON WEHRER
Leadman
Holdrege
20 Years



ROCKY WENT
Storekeeper
Grand Island
20 Years



CHRIS DURAND
Customer Services
Grand Island
25 Years



MIKE SORENSEN
Leadman
Grand Island
25 Years

TEN Quick Tips to Avoid High Winter Bills

1

Seal air leaks and insulate well to prevent heat from escaping and cold air from entering your home.

2

Reduce waste heat by installing a programmable thermostat.

3

Turn off lights when not in use.

4

Lower your water heater temperature. The Department of Energy recommends using the "warm" setting in fall & winter months. (120°)

5

Unplug electronics like kitchen appliances and TVs when you are away.

6

Open blinds and curtains during the day to allow sunlight in to warm your home.

7

Close blinds and curtains at night to keep cold, drafty air out.

8

Use power strips for multiple appliances, and turn off the main switch when you are away from home.

9

Wash clothes in cold water, and use cold-water detergent whenever possible.

10

Replace incandescent light bulbs with LEDs, which use at least 75% less energy.

Manage Your Account Online



View and Pay Your Bill

Review Your Usage

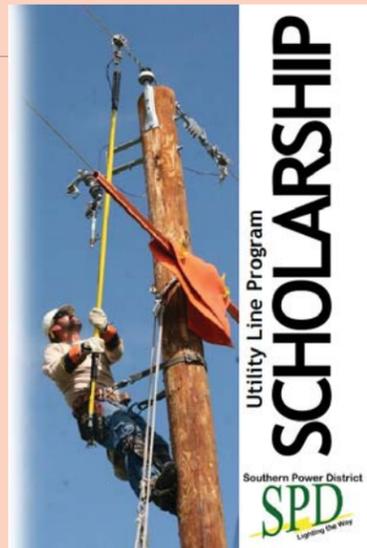
Go Paperless!

Learn More About Using Less!



Try out the Energy Resource Center Tools, and learn where your Energy Dollars Are going.

Utility Lineworker Scholarship Program



To learn more about the above three programs, visit our website at www.southernppd.com