

# SPD

# Newsletter

LIGHTING THE WAY

May 2017  
Series 34, Issue 5

## LOOK UP

Use a spotter when maneuvering large farm equipment near power lines. Long hours during planting season can lead to fatigue and the oversight of dangers.

Remember, it only takes a moment to **LOOK UP** and gain a perspective of the location of power lines. Don't over**LOOK** them!

## LOOK OUT

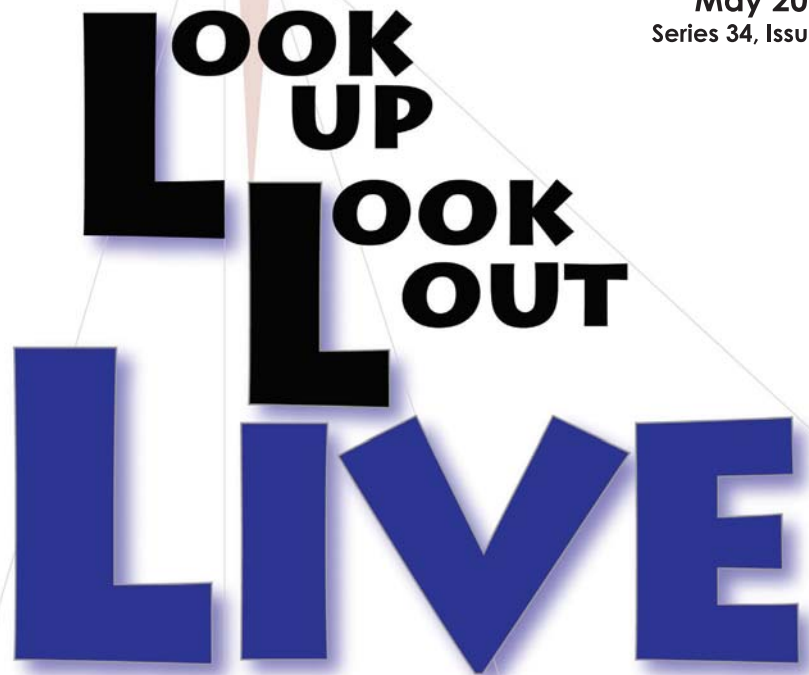
If you see a low-hanging power line, or one that has fallen on the ground, **LOOK OUT!** Always assume fallen lines are energized. Stay clear of the line, and give us a call. Instruct others in proximity to keep a safe distance until lineworkers verify that the line is no longer de-energized.

## LIVE

Electrical accidents happen in mere moments. Your actions in those moments is what ultimately determines your safety.

### Remember the THREE L's.

With electrical facilities, Looking up and Looking out will assure that you will **LIVE!**



May is

## Electrical Safety Month

Remembering electrical safety is easy, just remember the THREE "L"s.

May is nationally recognized as Electrical Safety Month. With warmer weather, we are all spending more time outdoors. Whether you are at home working on a project, in the field planting your crops, or enjoying recreational activities, safety in relation to overhead power lines can be summed up with just a few words. And they are easy to remember!

When you are outdoors near overhead power lines, we'd like you to think about the THREE "L"s.

**Look up. Look out. LIVE!**

Taking a few moments to look at your surroundings is all it takes to avoid a deadly hazard.

We would love to tell you more about electrical safety! If you would like to schedule a Hotline Trailer Demonstration this summer at a community event, give us a call at 800-579-3019. These are great demonstrations for people of all ages!

# Electrical Safety Tips At Home

## OUTDOORS

- Working outdoors? Use a wooden or fiberglass ladder. Remember to keep a minimum of 10 feet between the ladder and power lines.
- For outdoor equipment, use lighting and power tools that have the label of an independent test laboratory. Make sure they're made for outdoor use.
- If you're working outdoors in a damp location, inspect all electrical cords and equipment being used. Make sure they are in good condition and free of defects. Use a ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) if possible.
- Use covers on outdoor power outlets, especially near swimming pools. Keep cords and electrical devices away from the water, and never handle electrical items before you've dried off.



## SMALL CHILDREN

- If you have small children at home, protect them by installing tamper-resistant receptacles.
- Kids should always ask an adult for help when plugging or removing cords from an outlet.

## LIGHTING

- Bulb wattage matters! Light bulbs with wattages that are too high for the light fixture can overheat the fixture, causing a fire hazard.
- Lamps are great accents for our homes. Make sure to place them on level surfaces, away from items that are flammable.
- Flickering or dimming lights? This could mean bigger problems ahead. Contact a qualified electrician to check your home's wiring.



## CORDS

- Power strips are great, but relying on them too much can be a problem! You may need to install more outlets in your home. Call a qualified electrician for help.
- Never place extension cords in high traffic areas, under carpets or across walkways, where they pose a potential tripping hazard.
- Frayed or damaged extension cords are dangerous and should never be used. Damage to the cord can expose wires and cause fire and shock hazards.



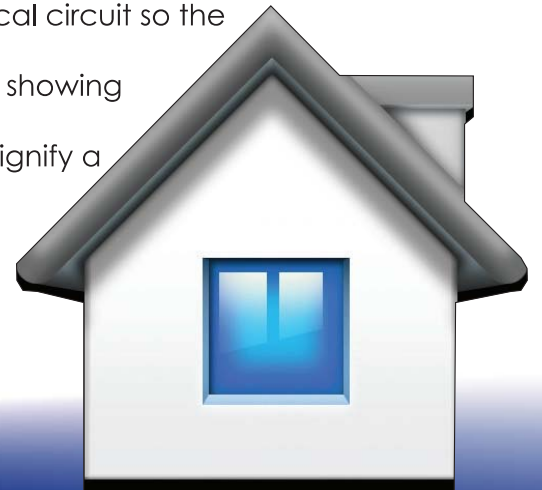
## FIRE SAFETY

- Smoke detectors in your home should be tested every month to ensure they are properly working.
- Smoke detectors should be installed in every bedroom, outside of each sleeping area and on every level of your home.
- Never throw water on an electrical fire! This may seem obvious, but in the heat of the moment, grabbing a bucket of water to extinguish the fire can be tempting. Use your chemical fire extinguisher instead.
- When you're cooking up a storm in the kitchen, remember to set a timer to remind yourself to check on food that is simmering or in the oven. Always double check to make sure burners and appliances are turned off when you're done.



## AROUND THE HOUSE

- Using a window A/C unit? Before installation, make sure the electrical circuit and the outlet are able to handle the load. Large units should have their own separate electrical circuit so the system is not overloaded.
- How well do you know your home's electrical system? Make a map showing which fuse or circuit breaker controls each switch, light or outlet.
- Recurring tripped circuit breakers or multiple blown fuses? This can signify a serious and dangerous electrical problem! Contact a licensed electrician immediately.
- DIY project for the home? Always turn off the power to the circuit that you plan to work on by switching off the circuit breaker in the main service panel.



# ROUND UP Grants Distributed to 14 Projects



It has been an exciting year, watching ROUND UP funds go back into our communities to help support some fantastic projects. We thank our customers who are participating in this program! Grants were awarded to the following 14 projects, totaling \$31,200 for the first quarter of 2017:

|  |                |  |                |
|--|----------------|--|----------------|
| <b>Holstein Rural Fire Department</b><br><i>Gas-Powered Saw</i>                                | <b>\$1,000</b> | <b>Village of Juniata</b><br><i>Ball Field Surface</i>   | <b>\$2,500</b> |
| <b>Juniata Rural Fire District</b><br><i>Nozzle Sprayers for Brush Truck</i>                   | <b>\$2,500</b> | <b>Village of Bertrand</b><br><i>Baseball Field Sprinkler System</i>                                     | <b>\$2,500</b> |
| <b>Kenesaw Volunteer Fire Department</b><br><i>Gas Monitors</i>                                | <b>\$2,500</b> | <b>Loomis Community Club</b><br><i>Youth Center Flooring</i>   | <b>\$2,500</b> |
| <b>Bertrand Volunteer Fire Department</b><br><i>Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus</i>         | <b>\$2,500</b> | <b>Hamilton County Agricultural Society</b><br><i>Office/Restroom Complex</i>                            | <b>\$2,500</b> |
| <b>Hordville Volunteer Fire Department</b><br><i>Self-Contained Breathing Mask Air Bottles</i> | <b>\$2,500</b> | <b>Franklin County Memorial Hospital</b><br><i>Patient Bed Replacement</i>                               | <b>\$2,500</b> |
| <b>Aurora Child Care, Inc.</b><br><i>Sun Shades</i>  | <b>\$2,000</b> | <b>Minden High School Tech Club</b><br><i>Picnic Table Trailers</i>                                      | <b>\$2,200</b> |
| <b>Village of Norman</b><br><i>Lawn Mower</i>  | <b>\$2,500</b> | <b>Overland Trails Council Boy Scout Troop #119</b><br><i>Park Bench Placement Near Little Libraries</i> | <b>\$1,000</b> |

Applications are now being accepted for the second quarter of 2017. Qualified applicants may apply for up to \$2,500 during the calendar year. Complete information, guidelines and application forms may be found at [www.southernpd.com/roundup](http://www.southernpd.com/roundup).

## Respect The Cones!

Each summer, there is a flurry of activity at Southern, as our linemen take advantage of warmer weather. As you are traveling, you will likely encounter work zones, where new facilities are under construction. There are often numerous linemen working in these construction zones.

We ask that when you see these zones, marked with safety cones and hazard signs, that you slow down and provide our linemen with a safe working environment.



## Four Students Receive Utility Lineworker Scholarships

At their April Meeting, Southern Public Power District's Board of Directors authorized the distribution of scholarships to four students who will be entering into a Utility Lineman Training Program.

The recipients of the 2017 Scholarships include: Cody Barbee, Ayr; Devin Nissen, Marquette; Jacob Kubicka, Juniata; and Owen Grube, Franklin. Each of the recipients will be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship, with the first half awarded after the completion of their first year, and the remainder upon graduation.

All four of these young men will be attending Northeast Community College in Norfolk. Congratulations to these upcoming students, we wish you all the best in your training!

**Remember...power outages must be reported by phone in order for us to dispatch linemen to your location. Call 800-579-3019 if you experience an outage.**



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

Comments or questions?

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**New Faces and New Places**

We are excited to announce that we have two individuals who have joined our excellent team at SPPD. Keenan Anderson began his career at Southern on April 10th, assuming duties as an IT Technician.



**ANDERSON**



**PROMES**

One week later, April 17th, Jamie Promes arrived at the District to fill a position in our Customer Services Department. We welcome both of these new employees to Southern.

Recently, three of our current employees assumed new roles. Kourtney Kruse has accepted the position of Irrigation Services Representative. Kourtney previously worked in our Customer Services Department. She will apply those skills in serving our irrigation customers during the upcoming season.



**KRUSE**

Becky Lesiak has accepted the position of Mapping Technician. Her role in this new position will be to assist with updating the maps that District personnel use in identifying facility locations within our electric system. Becky had previously served as our Irrigation Services Representative.



**LESIAK**

Finally, our Holdrege service area customers will see a new face out working in western portions of the District. Nick Dean, Journeyman Lineman with our Grand Island-based Construction Crew, will be relocating to fill a position in Holdrege.



**DEAN**

We thank these three employees for the great work they have done in their previous roles, and applaud their ambition to accept the challenge of learning new skills and duties!

**Chili-Stuffed Poblano Peppers**

**INGREDIENTS:**

- 1 lb lean ground turkey
- 1 can (15-oz) chili without beans
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1-1/2 C. shredded Mexican cheese blend, divided
- 1 med. tomato, finely chopped
- 4 green onions, chopped
- 4 large poblano peppers
- 1 T olive oil



**PREPARATION:**

1. Preheat broiler. In a large skillet over medium heat, cook turkey, crumbling meat, until no longer pink, 5-7 minutes; drain. Add chili and salt; heat through. Stir in 1/2 cup cheese, tomato and green onions.
2. Meanwhile, cut peppers lengthwise in half; remove seeds. Place on a foil-lined 15x10x1-inch baking pan, cut side down; brush with oil. Broil 4 inches from heat until skins blister, about 5 minutes.
3. With tongs, turn peppers. Fill with turkey mixture; sprinkle with remaining cheese. Broil until cheese is melted, 1-2 minutes longer. Yield: 4 servings.