

Power Pointz

news from
Garland Light & Power Co.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

March 2018

Managing Physical Threats To Grid Reliability

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While the threat of cybersecurity attacks on the electric grid get a lot of attention these days, physical damage from storms or critters is much more likely to disrupt power. There are many physical threats to our power delivery system that your cooperative works hard to manage on a daily basis. From weather events to criminal activity (including copper theft and shooting at a substation), it takes proactive commitment to consistently deliver reliable service. Even something as small as a squirrel can damage infrastructure and cause outages.

If the lights do go out, we're ready to restore power as quickly and as safely as possible. Here are three key ways that we work to keep your power as reliable as possible.

1. **Being Part of the Community.**

One of the most valuable things about being served by an electric cooperative is that you also have an ownership stake in the way the cooperative operates. Electric cooperatives know our communities. We live and work in the neighborhoods and towns we serve. You know many of Garland Light & Power's board members and employees. And, in turn, our board members and employees are personally acquainted with or are a part of or have been part of community activities.

We know that emergencies can happen at any time, and these relationships are important in urgently responding to unplanned events or in preparing for more predictable events, including winter storms or summer flooding.

2. **Planning, Preparing and Practicing.**

There is a well known saying that it's not if a crisis will occur, but when it will occur. That constitutes a crisis can mean different things to member-owners, depending on the role electricity plays in their daily lives or businesses. We test our disaster and business continuity plans regularly and pride ourselves on being prepared at all times. Our plans not only focus on how to prevent threats, but also how to respond and recover in the event of an incident. Business activities, such as vegetation management or pole inspections, may seem routine; however, they are strategically performed to proactively reduce threats. Trees that are too close to power lines can cause major damage during a storm and may result in a lengthy outage.

3. **Coordinating with Stakeholders.**

Garland Light & Power places a high importance on partnerships with fellow cooperatives, our state and national electric cooperative associations, industry partners and government agencies to mitigate the potential impacts of all types of threats to our system.

Although the grid is incredibly resilient and can withstand many physical impacts, it's also a dynamic infrastructure that requires constant attention. We are vigilant in ensuring we protect the grid from physical and cyber threats in order to power your lives.

Summer Hours

Garland Light & Power is changing to a 4/10 work week from May 7 to Oct 1

Hours of operation will be:
7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday
Closed on Fridays

Standby crews will be available from Friday through Sunday for outage situations by calling:

754-2881



**DON'T FORGET TO MOVE
YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD
ONE HOUR!!**



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS
MARCH 11, 2018**

Clean your keyboard-the right way

If you ask the Internet how to clean your computer's keyboard, it just might tell you to put it in the dishwasher. Don't do that!

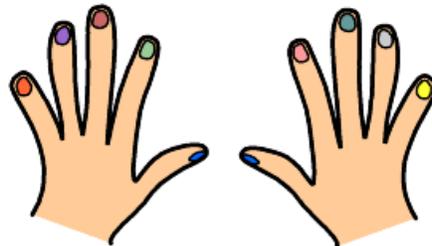
It will come out sparkling clean, all right, but who knows how long it will last after that.

Still you should thoroughly clean your keyboards every now and then. It turns out that they're dirtier than a toilet seat.

A British researcher found all kinds of nasty stuff, like E. coli and staph, on the keyboards he tested for bacteria and microbes, more than he found when he tested a toilet seat from the same building, used by the same people. And it turns out that the best way to keep your keyboard clean is to wash your hands a lot.

1. Unplug your keyboard.
2. Pick up the keyboard, turn it upside down and gently shake it. That will loosen crumbs, hair and other debris that might have fallen between the keys.
3. Invest in a can of compressed air, and spray it in between the keys.
4. Using a Q-tip lightly dipped into rubbing alcohol, swab the surfaces you can reach between and around the keys. Don't moisten the Q-tip to the point of dripping; you don't want any liquid to seep into the circuitry beneath the keys.
5. Use a cloth lightly coated with rubbing alcohol to clean the keys themselves and the rest of the keyboard.
6. Slide a stiff business card between the keys, like you would swipe a key card in a motel room door. That will pick up hair and dust that might have settled into the crevices between the keys.
7. If you spill something or drop crumbs onto your keyboard, clean it up right away. Like a stove, a keyboard is harder to clean when food or liquids sit for a while.

Do this once a month, and your keyboard will be a less likely breeding ground for germs.



Happy
Easter
April 1st



Lose the Lint to Avoid A Fire

Each year, an estimated 15,000 fires involving washers and dryers happen in homes throughout the United States. Clothes dryers account for over 90% of these fires, and the leading cause of these fires is failure to clean the unit (specifically, failure to clean the lint filter). Consider the following tips as a way to protect you and your home.

- Read the manufacturer's operating instructions for safety information.
- Never use a dryer without a lint filter.
- Always clean the lint filter, and any lint that collects around the drum, before and after drying cycles.
- Keep an eye on the vent pipe to insure that it is

not obstructed and is opening during the operation of the unit.

- Never overload your dryer or leave it running when you leave your home or sleep.

Here are just a few of the many signs that let you know it is time to clean your vent:

- Your clothes aren't drying in a normal cycle of 35-40 minutes.
- There is a musty odor coming from your dryer.
- Clothes are extra hot to the touch after they are dry. Your laundry room is excessively hot when the dryer is on.



DONT LET YOUR DRYER START A FIRE.....

When you see our lineman working, please slow down. They are working hard to keep your lights on and we want to keep them safe. Thank you.

