

September 2018

How to reach us

Garland Light & Power Co.
755 Highway 14
Powell, Wyoming 82435
307-754-2881
Fax: 307-754-5320

E-mail: mbost@garlandpower.org

Board of Directors

Jerry Thompson
President
Peggy Ruble
Vice President
Scott Smith
Secretary Treasurer
Spencer George
Ike Eastman

Staff

Molly Lynn
General Manager
Stephen Reimer
Line Superintendent
Michelle Bost
Office Manager
Todd Lawson
Lineman
Josh Serr
Lineman
Jason Fields
Meter Reader

Power Pointz

news from
Garland Light & Power Co.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Celebrate Farm Safety In September

Working on a farm can be dangerous. As a reminder, farm communities have celebrated National Farm Safety and Health every year since September 1944.

This year's observance is from Sept 17-23.

Safe Electricity encourages farm managers to share this information with their families and workers to keep them safe from electrical accidents.

- Start each morning by planning your day's work. Know what jobs will happen near power lines and have a plan to keep the assigned workers safe.
- Keep yourself and equipment at least 10 feet away from power lines in all directions, at all times. Use a spotter when moving tall equipment and loads.
- Use care when rising augers or the bed of a grain truck. It can be difficult to estimate distance, and sometimes, a power line is closer than it looks. Use a spotter to make certain you stay far away from power lines.
- Always lower equipment extensions, portable augers, or elevators to their lowest possible level, under 14 feet, before moving them.
- Be aware of increased height when loading and transporting larger modern tractors with higher antennas.
- Never attempt to raise or move a power line to clear a path. If power lines near your property have sagged over time, call to have them repaired.
- Don't use metal poles when breaking up grain inside and around bins.
- Be careful not to raise any equipment, such as ladders, poles, or rods into power lines. Remember non-metallic materials, such as lumber, tree limbs, tires, ropes and hay will conduct electricity, depending on the dampness, dust, and dirt contamination .



Phantom Loads

How much are your electronics really costing you?

Top 5 Phantom Loads (yearly cost)

DVR-\$16.43
Desktop PC-\$11.90
Gaming Console-\$7.32
Cable Box-\$6.98
Compact Stereo-\$4.44

Phantom loads (aka standby power) can cost your energy and money

- Phantom loads refers to the electricity your equipment uses when plugged in, switched off, in sleep mode, or otherwise not performing its primary function.
- Phantom loads cost add up due to the number of devices in your home or office left plugged in 24 hours per day, 365 days per year
- Below are some typical electronic equipment and average annual energy usages broken into active and standby operation with the associated electric cost (in \$/year)
 - DVR-\$16.43
 - Desktop PC-\$11.90
 - Gaming Console-\$7.32
 - Cable Box-\$6.98
 - Compact Stereo-\$4.44
 - PC Speakers-\$2.70
 - Laptop-\$2.23
 - AV Stereo-\$.46
 - TV-\$.36

What can you do to avoid the cost of phantom loads?

- Turn off personal computers and monitors
- Unplug equipment that you are not using when practical (e.g. toaster, laptop, cell phone charger)
- Purchase Energy Star certified products which have lower standby energy use than non-certified products
- Review your equipment's owner manual for energy-saver configurable modes and enable when available (e.g. television, personal computer)
- Plug your home/office computer equipment (printers, speakers, shredder, etc) and entertainment equipment (DVD, game console, speakers, etc) into a power strip when not in use (Note: this may cause some devices to lose configuration settings)
- Consider using power strips that feature controlled outlets that switch on/off automatically based on the on/off switch position of the equipment plugged-in to the master outlet (AKA smart strips)

HOW TO GET THROUGH UNTIL POWER GETS RESTORED

Severe storms are devastating to homes, properties and lives. These storms can also take down power lines, creating a dangerous situation for all of us, including the lineman working hard to get your power back on.

How long it takes to get your power restored depends on the extent of the storm's destruction, the number of outages, and when it becomes safe for utility personnel to get to the damaged areas. There are many steps in the assessment and restoration process, clearing downed power lines; ensuring public health and safety facilities are operational; checking power stations and transformers; repairing transmission lines, substations, and transformers; repairing substations, and distribution lines, and getting power restored to customers within the various damaged areas.

Be sure to contact Garland Light & Power immediately to report the outage.

Safe Electricity and its members want you to know how to stay safe and get through until power can be restored to you. They recommend taking the following safety precautions.

- Just because power lines are damaged does not mean they are dead. Every downed power line is potentially energized and dangerous until utility crews arrive on the scene to ensure power has been cut off. Downed power lines, stray wires, and debris in contact with them all have the potential to deliver a fatal shock. Stay far away and keep others away from downed power lines.
- Never enter a flooded basement if electrical outlets are submerged. The water could be energized.
- Do not turn power off if you must stand in water to do so. Call your electric utility, and have them turn off power at the meter.
- Before entering storm damaged buildings, make sure electricity and gas are turned off.
- Do not use water-damaged electronics before properly restoring them. Electric motors in appliances should be cleaned and reconditioned before use. It may be necessary to replace some of your appliances and electronics. Have your water-damaged items inspected and approved by a professional before using them.
- If you clean up outdoors after a storm, do not use electronic equipment in wet conditions.
- If you are driving and come along a downed power line, stay away and keep others away. Contact emergency personnel or your utility company to address the downed power line.
- If you do come in contact with a downed power line, do not leave the car. Wait for utility and emergency professionals to make sure the power line is de-energized before exiting the car.

During an outage, Safe Electricity, recommends turning off electrical appliances and unplugging major electronics, including computers and televisions. Power sometimes comes back in surges, which can damage electronics. Your circuits could overload when power returns if all your electronics are still plugged in and on. Leave on lights on to indicate that power has been restored. Wait a few minutes and then turn on other appliances and equipment, one at a time.

If you use a standby generator, it is critical that proper safety precautions be taken. Always read and follow all manufacturer operating instructions. There should be nothing plugged into the generator when you turn it on. This prevents a surge from damaging your generator and appliances. Operate generators in well-ventilated, outdoor, dry areas. Never attach a temporary generator to a circuit breaker, fuse, or outlet. Permanent generators should be wired into a house by a qualified electrician using a transfer switch in order to prevent back feeding electricity back into overhead lines, which can be deadly for lineman.

To help you get through, have a storm kit prepared. Keep the kit in a cool, dry place, and make sure all members of the family know where it is.

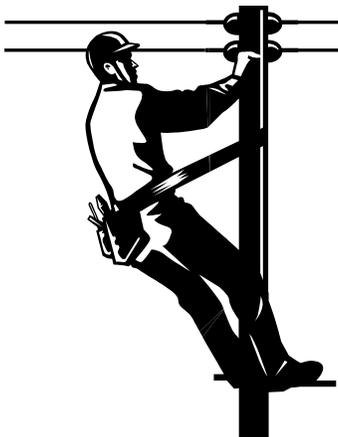
SCHOOL HAS STARTED.....

Drive Carefully and Watch
for School Buses Stopped
for Children in the
Roadway!!



811

Wyoming One Call
Call Before you Dig!
It's the Law!



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.



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.