

Spotlight

FROM THE MANAGER—JIM HATHAWAY

Electrical Safety Tips

Spring is here and it's time to do those outdoor activities put off over the winter. May is National Electrical Safety Month and, as your electric provider, Dunn Energy encourages all of its members to use caution around electricity.



Whether you're starting a home improvement project, planning to trim a tree, adding to your garden, or taking a refreshing swim Dunn Energy wants you to consider the electrical equipment around you and potential hazards to avoid

during the spring and summer months. Of particular concern are power lines overhead and the added dangers when water is present.

Safety tips to keep in mind this spring and summer:

- Look up and around you. Always be aware of the location of power lines, particularly when using long metal tools like ladders, pool skimmers and pruning poles, or when installing rooftop antennas and satellite dishes or doing roof repair work.
- Be especially careful when working near power lines attached to your house. Keep equipment and yourself at least 10 feet from lines. Never trim trees near power lines – call Dunn Energy if there is a tree in your yard that you think may damage a power line.
- Electricity and water are a dangerous mix. Keep electrical appliances and tools at least ten feet away from pools and wet

surfaces. Never use electric yard tools if it's raining or the ground is wet.

- Never step into a flooded area – especially basements - if water is in contact with electrical outlets, appliances or cords. Don't use any electrical appliances or touch circuit breakers or fuses when you're wet or standing in water.

(...continued on back)



Calendar of Events

May 2019

- 2-4 Thrift, Quilt & Bake Sale –** Christ Lutheran Church, Menomonie – Thurs-Fri from 8-4 and Saturday 9-Noon
- 4 Low Cost Microchip Clinic –** Menomonie Veteran's Center/Foxhole Bar – 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. DCHS is hosting this low-cost microchip event with a cost of only \$10 (plus tax) per animal
- 11 Native Plant Sale –** Beaver Creek Reserve, Fall Creek – 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- 25 Downsview Community Museum Spring Pancake Breakfast –** 8-11 a.m. at the Museum – Enjoy pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee – Meet local artist Dan Burleigh Phillips

CALENDAR DEADLINE CHANGE

The deadline for getting events on the community calendar has changed. If you want to have your event included in the Spotlight newsletter you must have the information, submitted in writing, no later than the first of the month, the month before the event.

For example, if you have an event scheduled for June 12, you would have to have it submitted by May 1 to have it included in the newsletter calendar.

Events can be submitted by email to jolene@dunnenergy.com



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

One free, easy call gets your utility lines marked and helps protect you from injury and expense. Safe digging is no accident. Always call 811 before you dig.



FROM THE MANAGER...

Electrical Safety Tips...

(...continued from front)

- Be sure outdoor outlets and outlets near wet areas of the kitchen, bath and laundry room have ground fault circuit interrupters to prevent serious shock injuries.
- If your projects include digging, like building a deck or planting a tree, call Digger's Hotline before you begin. (1-800-242-8511) Never assume the location or depth of underground utility lines. Call at least three business days ahead of your dig date. This service is free, prevents the inconvenience of having utilities interrupted, and can help you avoid serious injury.

- Never post signs or tie banners around utility poles. Posting signs, hanging banners or tying ribbons and balloons onto utility poles could put our linemen at risk.



In addition, Dunn Energy wants everyone to make sure children understand and follow basic safety rules:

- Never climb trees near power lines. Even if the power lines aren't touching the tree, they could touch when more weight is added to the branch.
- Fly kites and model airplanes in large open areas like a park or a field, safely away from trees and overhead power lines. If a kite gets stuck in a tree that's near power lines, don't climb up to get it. Contact Dunn Energy for assistance.
- Never climb a utility pole. Don't play on or around pad-mounted electrical equipment.



If you see a downed power line, stay far away from it and call Dunn Energy Cooperative. Warn others to stay clear of the wires. Assume that all downed power lines are energized. Dunn Energy wants all our members, young and old, to enjoy the many benefits of electricity safely.

Can You Dig It?





An underground utility line is **damaged once every 9 minutes** because someone didn't call 811.



Call 811, the "Call Before You Dig Number," at least **2 business days** prior to digging.



811 locators **do not detect** underground sprinkler systems, invisible fences, data communication systems, private water systems, or gas piping to a garage.



Even if you have previously had underground utilities marked, **utilities can shift**, so it's best to call before starting a new project.



Once **all of your utilities** have been located, then you can start your digging project!

Learn more at

 **Safe Electricity.org**



Spotlight

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This newsletter is published for the members of Dunn Energy Cooperative. If you have questions or comments please give us a call. Visit the Energy Professionals at your local energy cooperative.

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