



TIPS From T.I.P.

Published By The T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative

OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE

July 2022

Brooklyn, Iowa

Don't Miss Your Annual Meeting on Saturday, August 27, 2022

When we hold your cooperative's annual meeting - or any other meeting - say, "Yes, I'll be there!"

"Yes" means that you and your fellow member-owners will be present to hear the business of your cooperative and to elect board members. Saying "yes" means that you as a member-owner can participate in a democratic process that makes an electric co-op different from any other utility.

Your 2022 annual meeting will be held on Saturday, August 27th. In addition to the business meeting which begins at 9:15 am in the BGM High School auditorium, a free breakfast will be served from 7:30 am till 9:00 am.

This year we are giving away a thermal tote to each membership in attendance. We will also be giving away 40 electric bill credits, a Predator 6,500W Gas Powered Generator, a Milwaukee Pole Saw/Blower Combo, and a boys and a girls bike. Winners will be drawn at the end of the annual meeting.

We hope you and your family are able to attend. We are excited to see everyone in person this year.

A Summer of Extremes Could Impact T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative Members

A summer season of potential above-average temperatures and extreme weather events, combined with increased demand for electricity and a potential reduction in electric generation resources may intermittently affect T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative member-owners.

Under normal summer conditions, members can anticipate the strong reliability they have come to expect from T.I.P. REC. However, in certain extreme conditions, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), may be forced to initiate temporary controlled load curtailments. MISO faces a potential generation shortfall this summer, resulting in a higher risk of energy emergencies during peak summer conditions. This shortfall is due to several factors including a significant increase in electric usage and power plants that are closing faster than new, dispatchable sources of generation can

replace them. The growing number of wind and solar resources in Iowa greatly assist in overall energy production, but they only provide intermittent power.

MISO acts like an air traffic controller of the electric grid to manage real-time generation within its footprint across the middle U.S., including about 90% of Iowa, and ensure electric supply and demand are balanced. T.I.P. REC's power supplier, Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO), participates in MISO to buy and sell generation as needed.

"CIPCO maintains a diverse 24/7 generation portfolio and has met all capacity requirements for member-owners like T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative," said CIPCO CEO Bill Cherrier. "While CIPCO has done its part, we are part of a larger regional grid that could be impacted by activities outside of Iowa. We are prepared to implement energy conservation methods and follow a series of steps that align with MISO criteria to strategically, temporarily reduce load and follow all protocols to ensure the grid stays balanced and stable through the summer months."

"The more member-owners we have conserving energy, the better for our cooperative," said Dean Huls, General Manager. "Energy prices are very high during peak periods and that impacts the power supply cost to everyone. If we all become more energy aware and make a few modifications in when we use energy, we can make a difference together."

T.I.P. member-owners can be notified of planned outages via email or text message. The setup for notifications is controlled through your SmartHub app. Our Outage Management System has extensive outbound communication options for members being effected by planned and current outages. It is critical that any member desiring notices of a future or planned outage setup their SmartHub account and configure notification options to alert them via email or text message. For help in setup or configuration of SmartHub and to learn more about how you can help beat the peak this summer, view our Facebook posts, visit www.tiprec.com or call 800-934-7976.

Linemen Review Safety Procedures Annually



T.I.P. REC linemen are pictured above reviewing basket truck rescue.

As just one part of your cooperative's comprehensive safety program, all T.I.P. linemen review basket rescue procedures annually. During this review they practice how to rescue a fellow lineman using a basket truck who may have had electrical contact, heat exhaustion, an allergic reaction to a bee sting or heart complications while working on the lines.



Pictured above are linemen practicing their pole climbing competency.

They also review and practice pole climbing competency as seen in the picture above. The linemen check their harnesses, climbing gear and lanyards to ensure they are in proper working condition. Each lineman then takes his turn climbing the pole to practice his pole climbing skills.

Welcome, Chase!



Pictured above is Chase Hammes-Tremmel who began working June 2nd as a Journeyman Lineman on our Sigourney crew.

Chase is a familiar face as he worked for T.I.P. REC as summer help in 2017. Since then he has graduated from Northwest Iowa Community College with a Powerline Diploma and has completed his apprenticeship, becoming a journeyman lineman at Linn County REC.

In his spare time, Chase likes riding motorcycles, fishing, golfing and just enjoying the outdoors.

Chase looks forward to moving back to where he grew up and serving the members. He enjoyed his time with T.I.P. REC as summer help and is very glad to be back!

We are excited to have Chase join our team!

Your T.I.P. Board of Directors:

Gene Von Ahsen, Homestead. President
Anne Axmear, North English Vice-President
Ronald Hoffman, Sigourney Sec'y-Treasurer
Jerry Henning, Hartwick Ass't Secretary
David Lee King, Guernsey Director
James Hines, Montour. Director
James De Smet, Victor. Director
Randy Upah, Chelsea. Director
Craig Stallman, Williamsburg Director

← CHECK THIS OUT!

T.I.P. REC offers **REBATES** on electric water heaters, central air conditioners, clothes washers, electric clothes dryers and much more. Go to tiprec.com/rebates for details or call our office if you have any questions.

Your Cooperative Continues its Aggressive Vegetation Management Program



The need to control growth of vegetation along power line right-of-way is easy to see in rural areas.

Overgrown right-of-way can cause problems during severe weather and can make it difficult to reach trouble spots to make repairs. This vegetation control

program enables your cooperative to provide you with more reliable electric service.

In a continuing effort to control vegetation growth, T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative has hired Midwest Spray Team & Sales, Inc. to treat vegetation in power line right-of-way with governmentally-approved herbicides. They start our program the first part of summer, using foliage herbicides. Midwest Spray Team & Sales, Inc. will follow up in the fall with a basal treatment in the areas they could not foliage spray. Growth in county road ditches will be sprayed, but if the Midwest crew has any questions, they will attempt to contact the landowner before spraying.

This year, Midwest Spray Team crews will be treating power line right-of-way in the Belle Plaine, Pilot, Toledo and North English substation areas.

If you have any questions or complaints, contact Scott Long, Operations Manager, or Becca Coover, Operations Assistant, in our Brooklyn office at 800-934-7976.

Vegetation management is yet another way that T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative keeps service reliability as one of our most important goals.



Moving? Don't forget to notify your Cooperative.

Editor's Choice Contest Winners



Pictured above is Dan Ries who won a CTECHi Portable Power Station when he entered the Iowa Electric Cooperative Living magazine's monthly Editor's Choice Contest. The specs of this power station include 200W, 320Wh LiFeP04 battery backup power supply, fully charged within 3.5 hours, PD60W quick charge, solar generator for outdoor travel and camping, plus emergency charging of devices at home.

Our second winner of 10 shade trees from the Arbor Day Foundation was Jeff Gropper.

Congratulations to the above winners!

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month



Did you know the combined use of large appliances like dishwashers, clothes dryers and washing machines account for the largest percentage of electricity use in the average U.S. home? Take small steps to save energy when using these appliances.

Only run full loads in the dishwasher, and thoroughly scrape food from dishes before loading. Dry towels and heavier cottons separate from lighter-weight clothing, and clean the lint screen after every use. Wash clothing in cold water to save energy used to heat water.

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Safety Tips for Before, During and After the Storm

Storm season is in full swing. Many summer storms have the potential to produce tornadoes - they can happen anytime, anywhere, and can bring winds over 200 miles per hour.

In April, a video of NBC Washington chief meteorologist Doug Kammerer went viral. During a live broadcast, Kammerer called his teenage son to warn him of a tornado that was headed straight for their home. Knowing the kids were likely playing video games and not paying attention to the weather, he told them to head straight to the basement. Kammerer debated if he should call his family on-air, but he knew it was the right thing to do. Luckily, the kids made it safely through the storm.

As adults, we understand the importance of storm safety, but younger children and teens may not realize the dangers storms pose. That's why it's so important to talk to your family and have a storm plan in place. Here are several tips you can share with your loved ones.

Before the Storm

- Talk to your family about what to do in the event of a severe storm or tornado. Point out the safest location to shelter, like a small, interior, windowless room on the lowest level of your home. Discuss the dangers of severe thunderstorms; lightning can strike 10 miles outside of a storm. Remember: when you hear thunder roar, head indoors.
- Make a storm kit. It doesn't have to be elaborate - having a few items on hand is better than nothing at all. Try to include items like water, non-perishable foods, a manual can opener, a First-Aid kit, flashlights and extra batteries, prescriptions, baby supplies and pet supplies. Keep all the items in one place for easy access if the power goes out.

During the Storm

- Pay attention to local weather alerts - either on TV, your smartphone or weather radio - and understand the types of alerts. A thunderstorm or tornado watch means these events are possible and you should be prepared; a warning means a thunderstorm or tornado has been spotted in your area and it's time to take action.
- If you find yourself in the path of a tornado, head to your safe place to shelter, and protect yourself by covering your head with your arms or materials like blankets and pillows.
- If you're driving during a severe storm or tornado, do not try to outrun it. Pull over, stay in your vehicle, stay secured in your seat belt, and cover your body with a coat or blanket if possible. Or, if you can safely get lower than the level of the roadway, exit

your vehicle and lie in that area, covering your head with your hands.

After the Storm

- If the power is out, conserve your phone battery as much as possible, limiting calls and texts to let others know you are safe or for emergencies only.
- Stay off the roads if trees, power lines or utility poles are down. Lines and equipment could still be energized, posing life-threatening risks to anyone who gets too close.
- Wear appropriate gear if you're cleaning up storm debris on your property. Thick-soled shoes, long pants and work gloves will help protect you from sharp or dangerous debris left behind.

Summer is a time for many fun-filled activities, but the season can also bring severe, dangerous weather. Talk to your loved ones about storm safety so that everyone is prepared and knows exactly what to do when a storm strikes.



Practice Storm Safety

- Have a plan in place and make a storm kit.
- Listen to local alerts and know where to shelter.
- Stay off the roads if trees and power lines are down.

NOTICE: The Brooklyn office will be closed on Tuesday, July 19 from 7:00 am till Noon for an all-employee meeting.

Pay Your Bill by Check, Debit or Credit Card. Log on to www.tiprec.com and Click on the blue Pay Now tab at the top or log into SmartHub or Call 888-999-0275.

TIPS from T.I.P. is published monthly for members of T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative, 612 W. Des Moines St., Brooklyn, Iowa 52211.