

T.I.P. Current Connection

T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative

July 2025

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



2025 Director Election Packets Arrive Mid-July

Shortly following your July bill, you will receive another mailing from T.I.P. REC which will be your election packet to vote for the Board of Directors who are up for election this year.

The election packet will have a cover letter explaining the voting process. Once again, you will have two options on how to vote: a Mail-In Ballot or online via SmartHub. SmartHub voting directions are in the cover letter. Candidate Bios for those running in the election will also be included in the packet.

PLEASE NOTE:

- **No Voting** at the August 27 Business Only Annual Meeting.
- Ballots must be postmarked no later than August 15, 2025 to be counted.
- All memberships casting a vote will receive a \$5.00 bill credit.
- **Do not include a payment with your ballot as it goes to a third party to be counted.**

To ensure a fair election, T.I.P. REC has again engaged a neutral 3rd party vendor to distribute and tabulate the ballots. It is very important that you, as a member-owner vote in the election, as your vote will count toward meeting the quorum requirement for the Business Annual Meeting.

Important Annual Meeting Reminder:

The Annual Meeting will be a Business Only Meeting held on Wednesday, August 27 at 1:00 pm at the Brooklyn headquarters. (320 Industrial Drive., Brooklyn, Iowa) and is open to member-owners to attend in-person.

- **Please note that there will be no meal, membership gifts or prize drawing at the meeting.**
- If you cast a vote, your name will be entered for a chance to win one of four grand prizes: \$250.00 bill credit. **Attendance at the Business Only meeting IS NOT required to win.** Winners will be notified late August.

Lineman Practice Safety Procedures



As part of T.I.P. REC's comprehensive safety program, all of our 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.



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.

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Students Learn About Electrical Safety

This spring Cole Calkins, Staking Technician/Member Service, visited the Tri-County, Belle Plaine, English Valleys, BGM, Sigourney and HLV elementary schools to spread the word about electrical safety. Cole gave an electrical safety presentation using interactive boards while having the students answer questions about electrical safety at home and on the farm.

T.I.P. REC feels it is so important to reach out and teach our area youth the dangers of electricity.



Cole and students from the Belle Plaine school are holding an “Energy Stick” which demonstrates that people are good conductors of electricity and that a complete circuit can be formed just by everyone holding hands.



A Tri-County student is pictured above touching a plasma ball that shows a visual form of how electricity flows.



Louie the Lightning Bug and Cole are pictured with students from the BGM Elementary School.



Cole is pictured with students from the HLV school standing in front of Hazard Hamlet which uses live electricity to demonstrate the dos and don'ts of electrical safety.

A little effort goes a long way.

HELP OFFSET PEAK ENERGY DEMAND

Help conserve energy by adjusting your energy use to lower-demand times of the day. Making small changes can help even out energy use and avoid service interruptions caused by high demand.

BEFORE 8:00 a.m.

- Use the oven
- Shower
- Do laundry

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

- Close window coverings
- Unplug appliances not in use

AFTER 3:00 p.m.

- Grill supper outdoors
- Use countertop appliances or a microwave (instead of the oven)
- Turn off circuit breakers for electric hot water heaters (Water will remain hot for hours; turn the breaker back on later)

AFTER 8:00 p.m.

- Wash dishes
- Set the dishwasher or other appliances to start after 10:00 p.m.
- Shower

OVERNIGHT

- Charge your electric vehicle

You can help by making these energy use adjustments to your day:

IN GENERAL

- Turn up your thermostat
- Use fans in occupied rooms to cool off
- Turn off and disconnect electronics not in use
- Turn off lights
- Turn off stand-alone dehumidifiers
- Turn off all non-essential pumps and motors

Making small changes can help you save on your energy bills, decrease the chances of future rate increases and ease the strain on the power grid.

Learn more at:

Safe Electricity.org

Grain Bin Clearance Notice

The State of Iowa requires specific clearances for electric lines around grain bins. T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative will provide assistance in planning for a safe environment for everyone working and living around grain bins.

The diagrams shown are according to the National Electrical Safety Code found in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 199-25.2(3)b. An electric utility may refuse to provide electric service to any grain bin built near an existing electric line which does not provide the clearances required by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) C2-2017, "National Electric Safety Code", Rule 234F. This paragraph "b" shall apply only to grain bins loaded by portable augers, conveyors or elevators and built after September 9, 1992, or to grain bins loaded by permanently installed augers, conveyors or elevator systems installed after December 24, 1997. (As adopted by the Iowa Utilities Commission).

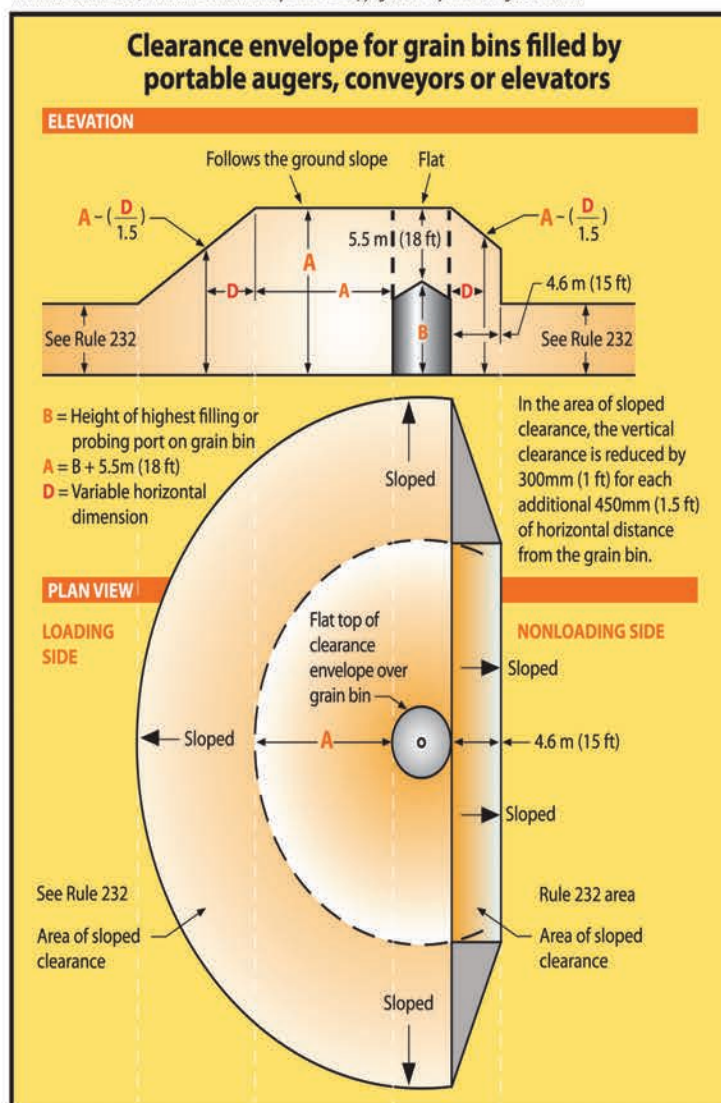
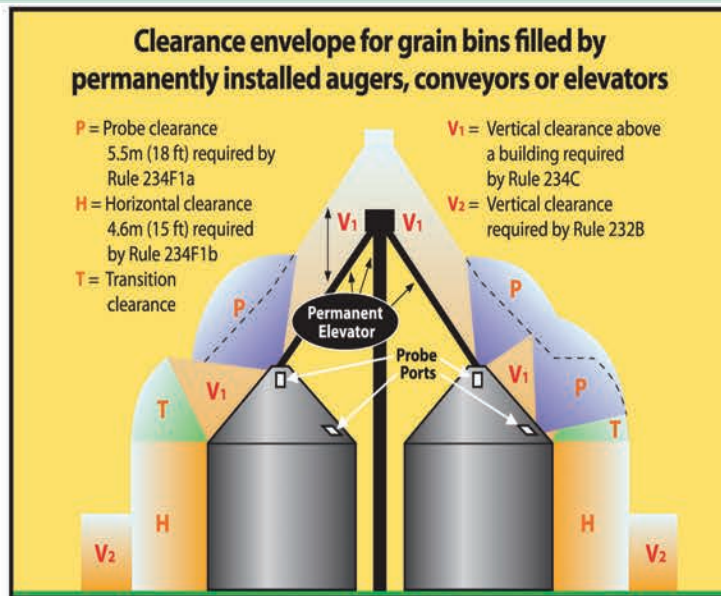
T.I.P. and its power supplier, Central Iowa Power Cooperative, are required by the Iowa Utilities Commission to provide this annual notice to farmers, farm lenders, grain bin merchants, and city and county zoning officials. If you have any questions concerning any clearance regulations, please call T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative at (800) 934-7976 before any new grain bin plans are finalized. For your safety, T.I.P. standards exceeds those specified in NESC.

Pool Clearances

When installing a pool, clearance in any direction from the water level, edge of a pool, base of diving platform, or anchored raft is required by (ANSI) C2-2012, "National Electric Safety Code", Rule T-234-3.

If you have any questions, please call us at (800) 934-7976 before any new pool plans are finalized.

Disclaimer: These drawings are provided as part of Iowa electric cooperatives' annual public information campaign and are based on the 2017 Edition of the National Electrical Safety Code. To view the actual drawings, refer to that publication. Every care has been taken for the correctness of the contents for these drawings. However, the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives and its member cooperatives accept no liability whatsoever for omissions or errors, technical inaccuracies, typographical mistakes or damages of any kind arising from the use of the contents of these drawings, whether textual or graphical.



Vegetation Management Program - Summer and Fall

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 Madison, Marengo, Hayesville and Webster substation areas.

If you have any questions or complaints, contact Hunter Connelly, Manager of System Operations, or Becca Stauffer, Operations Coordinator, in our Brooklyn office at 800-934-7976.

Service reliability is one of our most important goals and vegetation management is another crucial maintenance program that helps T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative make that possible.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

During the summer months, run large appliances that emit heat such as clothes dryers and dishwashers during the evening when the outdoor temperature is lower. Running heat-emitting appliances in the evening will reduce indoor heat gain during the day when outdoor temperatures are highest and ultimately keep your air conditioner from working harder than necessary.

2025 Summer Help



T.I.P. REC is excited to have Parker Weeda join our Brooklyn linemen crew to help out this summer.

Parker is a recent graduate of the Belle Plaine Jr/Sr High School. This fall he will be attending Marshalltown Community College and taking the Powerline Technician program.

We hope Parker gains a lot of knowledge by working along side our linemen.



NOTICE: The Brooklyn office will be closed on Wednesday, July 9 from 7:00 am till 1:00 pm for an all-employee safety meeting.

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Non-Discrimination Statement

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TIPS from T.I.P. is published monthly for members of T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative, 320 Industrial Drive, Brooklyn, Iowa 52211.