



North Central's News

Delivering a difference to parts of Knox, Antelope, Pierce, and Holt Counties Since 1945



General Manager Doyle Hazen

A Challenging Year

As I was driving home the other day, I noticed the

cottonwood trees showing the first hints of gold signaling the coming of fall. We have just come through the summer season for North Central Public Power District (NCPD). As of August 29, 2022, we have sold a total of 124,881,636 kWh year to date. The 124M kWh is the highest amount sold through the month of August in NCPD's history. Irrigation usage this year has been steady due to the dry weather. Irrigation kWh sold year to date has been 68,225,049 kWh. This is also an all-time record. I am sure each irrigation customer is well aware of their contribution to this number. All of this load tested the grid, but for this year it seems to have met the challenge. NCPD's engineering firm is already doing studies to see what improvements and upgrades are needed to keep up with the load growth.

Supply chain has continued to be a big challenge to the operation of the district. Transformer costs are up over 100% with 120 week lead times for delivery. Currently, the orders that were to be delivered in March have yet to arrive. On the other hand,

some orders that were not to be seen for weeks are being delivered. Poles and overhead wire are also up 50-100% in cost with delivery in 12 weeks and 52 weeks respectively.

It is very difficult to plan and manage work flow when you don't know when you will receive the necessary material and equipment. The relationships that have been fostered over the years with vendors and suppliers have been key in keeping supply available. NCPD's team has worked to make sure the impact is minimized for the customer from this critical supply issue.

It would be nice to say that supply will straighten out in the next several weeks, but it probably won't. Conversations continue with our vendors, statewide groups and national trade groups; however, they have all said that a return to just-in-time inventory control is not in the near future.

It seems that NCPD's vendors have been able to supply a majority of hardware, but the key items have such long lead times. In a CoBank meeting that I attended earlier this year, an economist spoke about some of the reasons that are causing this supply issue. The biggest reason across the board is the birthrate in the US and the rest of this planet. We are not replacing the people as

fast as they are dying. There is not a quick fix to this issue. Increases in productivity and efficiency could help. We are in an economic environment that we all have to endure. North Central Public Power District is working in your part of the world to make things work to your betterment. We will continue to provide the best customer service at the best value. Keep safe.



Thanksgiving

Nov. 24-25, 2022

Christmas

Dec. 23 & 26, 2022

New Years

Jan. 2, 2022





Winter Rates

On October 1st, winter rates will go into effect. These rates are lower than summer rates and will be in effect for the next eight months (October through May).

IRRIGATION SERVICE REMINDER



North Central PPD wants to remind all irrigation customers to open their main disconnect handle at the end of the season. This will isolate the irrigation customers' underground wires. If the irrigation is equipped with auto restart, it is also recommended to open the disconnect handle at the irrigation panel. Have a safe and productive harvest.

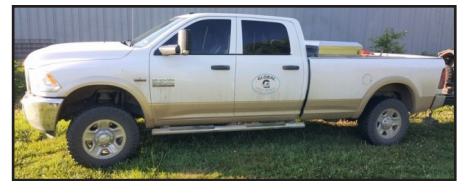
Annual Pole Testing to Begin

Global Utility Services began performing distribution line pole tests in September. They will be testing poles in part of the City of Plainview, and the Bazile and Crawford Townships in Antelope County.

You will see the Global Utility Services pick-ups and ATVs along the roads. Please be aware of these workers and drive carefully.

Most utility poles are made of wood and their constant exposure to the environment takes a toll. Wind, moisture, and soil conditions all can distress or decay wood. Regular pole inspection and treatment helps to spot and take care of any problems before they become critical situations.

Global Utility Services is a professional firm out of Columbus, NE, that is an expert in pole evaluations. Employees from Global Utility Services will be identifiable by company logos, equipment, shirts and hard hats and will carry identification. For more information, stop in or call the Operations Department at NCPPD at 800-578-1060.



Four Attend Youth Leadership Camp



Jacob Hanvey, son of Kelly Hanvey and Michael Hanvey of Center; Joseph Pavelka, son of Doug and Jean Pavelka of Verdigre; Weston Hoffman, son of Rory and Paula Hoffman of Plainview; and Carlee Livingston, daughter of Valerie Livingston of Orchard represented North Central Public Power District at the Youth Leadership Camp in Halsey, NE.

New Line Worker at NCPPD



Lukas Dougherty

Apprentice Line Worker

Lukas Dougherty - son of Tina Dougherty and Andy Dougherty, comes from O'Neill, NE. He graduated from O'Neill High School and completed the Utility Line Program at Northeast Community College in May 2022. Lukas has worked at North Central Public Power District as an intern and now joins the crew as an Apprentice Line Worker. He enjoys hunting, fishing and being outside.



Linda Sokol,
Energy Advisor

Deadlines Approaching for Available Grants



- The USDA has announced the deadlines for the REAP grant applications. For Grants of \$80,000 or less the deadline is October 31, 2022 and for all project sizes the deadline is March 31, 2023.
 - The Diesel Irrigation Engine Replacement Rebate program through the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy will open sometime in October with a January 17, 2023, deadline.
- If you are interested in applying for either of these grants or have any questions please call Linda Sokol at 402-358-5112.

Youth Tour Visits Washington, D.C.

A group of 21 Nebraska high school students attended the annual NRECA Youth Tour from June 17-23.

After a two-year hiatus due to COVID, Youth Tour resumed at lower levels this year with a number of states choosing not to send students.

North Central Public Power District sent Tucker Stagemeyer, son of Brent and Carla Stagemeyer. Tucker was selected to represent Nebraska on the Youth Leadership Council, will compete to become the NRECA national youth spokesperson, and will be in attendance at the 2023 NRECA Annual Meeting in Nashville.



Easy Pecan Pie Dip with Pie Crust Dippers

Pie Crust Dippers

- 1 Tbsp granulated sugar
- ½ tsp ground cinnamon
- 1 box refrigerated pie crusts, softened as directed on box
- 2 Tbsp butter, melted

Topping

- 4 Tbsp. butter
- ½ cup packed brown sugar
- ½ cup heavy whipping cream
- ½ tsp vanilla
- ⅛ tsp salt
- 1 cup chopped pecans, toasted

Dip

- 1 pkg (8 oz) cream cheese, softened
- ½ cup powdered sugar
- 1 cup frozen whipped topping, thawed

Heat oven to 425°F. In small bowl, mix granulated sugar and cinnamon. Set aside. Unroll first pie crust on work surface; roll into 12-inch round. Using 2 ½ - 3-inch leaf or desired shape cookie cutter, cut pie crust. Repeat rolling and cutting with second pie crust. Place leaves 1 inch apart onto ungreased cookie sheets. Brush with 2 Tbsp. melted butter. Sprinkle with sugar-cinnamon mixture. Bake 8 - 10 minutes or until golden brown. Cool 2 minutes. Remove from cookie sheet to cooling rack. Cool completely, about 10 minutes. In 2-quart saucepan, melt 4 Tbsp. butter over medium heat. Add brown sugar; cook 2 - 3 minutes, stirring frequently, until mixture is bubbling and sugar dissolves. Reduce heat to low; carefully stir in whipping cream, vanilla and salt. Increase heat to medium; heat to simmering, stirring frequently; remove from heat. Stir in pecans; cool mixture 30 minutes. In large bowl, mix cream cheese and powdered sugar. Beat with electric mixer on medium speed until smooth. Beat in whipped topping until mixed well. Spread into bottom of 9-inch pie plate; top with cooled pecan mixture. Refrigerate at least 30 minutes before serving. Serve with pie crust dippers.



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FOR SALE: Full size slate pool table. Ping pong table goes with it. Call 402-394-1500.

FOR SALE: 1954 IHC Super H Live Lift. Like new tires. Call 402-358-3229.

FOR SALE: Farmhand hay wagon. New tires. Ready to go. Call 402-847-3274.

FOR SALE: Johnson Evinrude 60-70 Hp 3 CYL motor, lower end with s.s. prop and tilt and trim. \$200. Call 402-857-3675.

FOR SALE: 1976 Hickory King 4 wheel 6x10 2 horse trailer, solid floor. Located in Winnetoon. \$1200. Call 402-641-6149.

FOR SALE: Foldable Electric Wheelchair. Never used. Paid \$2,800. Asking \$2,000 or best offer. Call 402-857-0727.

FOR SALE: 2005 Yamaha Bruin 350, 2-wheel drive 4-wheeler, red, new battery, good shape, bought new, runs well.

\$2,100. Call 402-358-0310.

FOR SALE: 2 orange Buhlen Polytuff mineral feeders, \$200 each. 2 white L-H mineral feeders, \$200 each. Yellow liquid protein lick tank with 4 rotary wheels, \$350. Call 402-358-0310.

Do you have something to sell or are you looking for something in particular? You may call, send or email (bargain.barn@ncppd.net) your description of what's for sale or what you are looking for to our office. The ad will run in the Bargain Barn section free for one month. Please include name and telephone number. No commercial ads will be accepted, personal items only.

Energy Vampires



can add **10%** or more to electric bills.



research collected from Energy.gov

STAY SAFE OUT ON THE HUNT

Take precautions to stay safe on your next hunting expedition.

- Know the signs of a heart attack or other life-threatening condition.
- Have a way to get in touch with the outside world.
- Always implement firearm safety techniques.
- Do not lean a tree stand against a utility pole.
- Do not fire at power lines, insulators or conductor cans.
- Carry a first aid kit.
- Check the weather in advance and be prepared.
- Check tree stands regularly for stability.
- Survey the area for potential electrical hazards.
- Be visible: Wear blaze orange.

Learn more at: SafeElectricity.org