

North Central's News

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



**General Manager
Doyle Hazen**

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*Happy Thanksgiving
and
Merry Christmas*

Where do we go from here?

Over the past several years we have all experienced the impact of inflation on our cash flows and budgets. North Central Public Power District (NCPD) has adjusted and managed for this environmental influence to maximize your rate dollars. In 2020, NCPD reduced rates by two percent to help its ratepayers. In 2022, as inflation continued to wear on, the board of directors reduced the rates again by about seven percent. In the interim, some of the costs that impact NCPD's ability to maintain and grow have increased as much as two hundred percent. Issues with supply chain have increased lead times for equipment and supplies. Distribution transformers can take as long as 54 weeks to receive with no assurances as to when they will arrive.

NCPD has recently completed a cost-of-service study. The cost-of-service study allows North Central to assign costs to recover in the rates. The study is generally conducted every

five years to establish a base amount to work from in the construction of rates. NCPD has been fortunate to have no increases in its wholesale rates. Sixty to sixty-five percent of NCPD's total expenses are wholesale electric costs. Through effective management from the board and all the employees, NCPD has been able to hold increases at bay. Looking forward, NCPD should be able to keep increases to a minimum. At this writing, the NCPD board is reviewing the rate study and will soon be setting rates for 2024. Currently, the rates will likely increase in the demand portion of the rate with slight decreases to the kwh charge. Overall, the changes will be net zero.

NCPD is always working to give its customers the best service and value for your money. Your local control through the board keeps you involved and gives you the service you deserve. Have a safe holiday season.

**Just a
reminder...**



Bill payments need to be postmarked by the US Postal Service or received at the NCPD office by the 15th of every month. Missing the deadline will result in a 5 % late fee charge on the balance due.

Tree Maintenance

Proactive measures benefit everyone

Over the next few months North Central Public Power District (NCPPD) will focus on tree maintenance, which is one of the leading causes of power outages. Tree trimming and removal is a proactive approach to this ongoing problem. We understand the importance of trees and realize their value to our customers. Proper tree maintenance is a benefit to everyone.

Advantages of Utility Tree Maintenance

- Safety of Customers
- Minimize Line Blinks for All Customers
- Reduce Outages and Lengthy Repairs



For tree maintenance this year, NCPPD's Operations Department will be contacting customers in Antelope, Knox and Pierce counties to receive tree trimming and removal permission. The 85-4 Brunswick rural, 85-6 Verdigre rural and 85-7 Plainview rural substations will be the focus of attention for tree maintenance.

Customers are reminded to report any potential issues concerning trees and power lines. We are continuously working to ensure our customers have safe and reliable electric service.

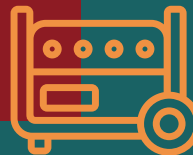
Contractor Hired for Tree Removal

North Central Public Power District (NCPPD) has contracted C&N Firewood & Tree Removal, LLC, from Plainview, NE, to cut and remove trees in the village of Verdigre. Trees are one of the leading causes of power outages. Tree trimming and removal is a proactive approach to this ongoing problem.

Customers are reminded to report any potential issues concerning trees and power lines. NCPPD works continuously to ensure its customers have safe and reliable electric service.



What to do before using a PORTABLE GENERATOR



Prepare

Install battery operated carbon monoxide (CO) alarms throughout your home; ensure they are working properly.

Position

Place a portable generator outside at least 20 feet from windows and doors; do not use one in a garage or carports.



Read

Carefully review and follow all manufacturer's instructions.

Protect

If it is wet outside, keep it dry by placing it on a tarp. Position it under a portable canopy (not a carport).



Refuel Safely

Turn off your portable generator and let it cool down before refueling.

Inspect and Maintain

Inspect a portable generator before each use and make sure it is properly maintained.



Using a portable generator can be useful during an outage; however, use one correctly to prevent CO poisoning and to stay safe.

North Central PPD linemen practice pole top and bucket rescue as part of ongoing training.



Preparing for Storm Season?

DON'T FORGET TO READY YOUR CAR

According to the National Safety Council (NSC), every vehicle should have an emergency supply kit onboard. Kits should be checked twice a year and expired items should be replaced regularly. Emergency supply kits should include:



- Snowbrush
- Shovel
- Windshield washer fluid
- Cat litter for traction



- Warm clothing
- Blankets
- Drinking water
- Nonperishable foods



- Properly inflated spare tire
- Wheel wrench & tripod jack
- Jumper cables
- Fire extinguisher



- Reflective triangles
- Reflective vest
- Brightly colored cloth
(to tie on side mirror)



- First-aid kit
- Flashlight and batteries
- Compass
- Car charger for cell phone

Safe
Electricity.org®



From our homes to yours . . .

Slow-Cooker Creamy Chicken and Wild Rice Soup

Ingredients

- 1 lb boneless, skinless chicken thighs, cut into 1-inch pieces
- ½ cup uncooked wild rice
- ¼ cup fresh or frozen chopped onions
- 2 cans condensed cream of potato soup
- 1 can roasted garlic-seasoned chicken broth
- 2 cups frozen sliced carrots
- 1 cup half-and-half

Directions

Place chicken in 3 ½ - to 4-quart slow cooker. In large bowl, mix wild rice, onions, soup, broth and carrots; pour over chicken. Cover; cook on Low heat setting 7 to 8 hours. Stir in half-and-half. Increase heat setting to High. Cover; cook 15 to 30 minutes longer or until hot.





FOR SALE: 1962 Allis-Chalmers Tractor D17 Series III, Serial # 42269, Hours 4109, gas powered, PTO, external hydraulic pump, 3-point tow bar, Rear tires 2019 & 2020, Kubota seat, No attachments; extra parts-hydraulic tank & pump, bracket. Norfolk, \$6495. Call 402-649-8860.

FOR SALE: 24x75 building to be torn down

for salvage. Lots of dimension lumber, some green treated, including several 4x4s. Call for details 402-655-2200 or 402-640-5955.

FOR SALE: 2 Gravity Flow Wagons: one 250 Bushel & one 350 bushel. Call 402-340-9830.

FOR SALE: Massey Ferguson 135 tractor with finish mower. \$3000. Call 402-720-0746.

FOR SALE: Simmons queen size mattress and box springs set. Excellent condition. Pro-form 390 E Elliptical Exerciser. Like new. Explorer Digital Music System Organ. Call 402-841-6791


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.



**SantaLand
Light Display
in Creighton**
Nov 24- Dec 31, 2023
6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

**Santa's Workshop
and
Mrs. Claus'
Gingerbread House**
Dec 1- Dec 23, 2023
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Check Facebook for closures due to weather.

Powered by Integrity

1409 Main St, PO Box 90
Creighton, NE 68729-0090
www.ncppd.com
E-Mail: ncentral@ncppd.net
Customer Service:
402-358-5112 or 800-578-1060
Reporting Power Outage: 888-358-5112

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*Closed for the
Holidays*

Thanksgiving
Nov. 23-24, 2023

Christmas
Dec. 22 & 25, 2023

New Year's
Jan. 1, 2024