



# Chimney Rock News



Choice is Local Control

[www.crppd.com](http://www.crppd.com)

May, 2024

## **Manager Memos -by Curtis Kayton**

### ***Changes on the horizon:***

Our billing intervals have been on a schedule that would not collect the previous month's revenues in the following month. Rising costs of everything have stretched that rubber band as tight as it can without breaking, and now we must move our billing, and due dates forward to account for this. Be watching your bill stuffers and corresponding communications to spell out how we are going to navigate this transition and as always you can call to ask questions at any time.

The April 6<sup>th</sup> storm came 5 days earlier than the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a massive storm that wrecked the central part of Nebraska back in 1994. This time, it was our turn. CRPPD'S total pole count was south of 300 poles, and while that may seem bad some of our neighbors sustained double and even triple that amount! The nice thing about Public Power is that our charge of serving the customer is the same whether you are on the east or west side of the state. So, when we need help from our neighbors, they answer the call regardless of if we border each other or come from the other end of the state. Regarding the restoration operation, your kind words and thoughtful actions were so appreciated! It really is true that a crisis brings out the best in people. Businesses who pitched in for food, to people with tractors who pulled us out, to customers who were without power yet offered kind words and patience. To all, we say THANK YOU!

We expect that by the time you read this notice we will have restored our system to almost pre-storm condition. On a final note, regarding debris pickup. We are going to gather as much as we can from the public road ditches as soon as possible, if you notice anything we missed please report it to our office at 308.586.1824 and we will make sure to get it on the route.

As always, we stand ready to respond to your needs and if you have questions feel free to stop in or call.

### **Energy Efficiency Credits**

Energy Efficiency Credits are available on electric motors, electric heating, electric hot water heaters, and LED lights. Must be new installations only. and submitted within 90 days.

Certain standards of efficiency must be met to qualify depending on the type of electric equipment installed.

Some of the credits include:

- \*Electric water heaters - new construction or conversion from gas to electric
- \*Heat pumps-\$150-\$500/ton  
15 SEER Minimum
- \*Electric motors 10-500 hp \$8/hp
- \*Old refrig and freezer going to be recycled
- \*Clothes Dryers - \$30-\$90
- \*Induction Cooktops 30" or larger, must be replacing gas
- \*LED lights - lesser of 1/2 cost of lights or \$8 per lamp, 500 Lumens or greater
- \*Electric trimmer, chainsaw, or pruner, electric blower or lawn-mower - 25% of cost, up to \$150
- \*Whole House Fans - \$100
- \*Smart Thermostats - \$25

Receipts are required.

Please contact our office for information on requirements and credit amounts at 586-1824.

Let us help pay for your new electric appliances and motors.

## *Don't let old electrical wiring pose a problem*

If you live in an older home, it may be time to have a professional electrician check out the wiring. Just because the wiring in a home is old doesn't automatically mean there's a problem, but there could be. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), many older homes that still have outdated wiring can't handle the electrical load of today's modern appliances. That's not good because old, outdated wiring could pose a fire hazard.

As electrical components age or become overloaded, the system can overheat and wear out insulation. This can lead to arcs (electrical discharge) and short circuits — the two main causes of home electrical wiring fires, according to the CPSC. In addition, old rubber wire insulation can become brittle and easily flake, leaving wires exposed.

Older wiring called knob and tube can be found in homes built around 1950 or earlier. If your electrical system was not thoroughly inspected when you bought it, or if it was inspected but it has been several years, have it inspected by an electrician to make sure it is safe and that it adequately meets the electrical needs of your home. If your house was built between 1965 and 1973, it could be dangerous for another reason. Aluminium is great for cans, but not for wiring since it can overheat. Unfortunately, it was used in 2 million homes that were built during that time period.

Regardless of the age of your home, be sure to get any potentially dangerous wiring issues checked out by a professional, especially if:

- Your circuit breaker keeps tripping or fuses blow often
- You notice unusual power draws or dimming or flickering lights
- You see discolored (dark colored) outlets or switch plates or they are warm to the touch
- You notice unusual odors like a burning smell but can't find a source
- Your outlets only allow you to plug in a two-pronged plug (and not a three-pronged plug), which means they are not grounded
- You don't have ground-fault circuit interrupters near faucets or other sources of water in your home
- Your house was built more than 40 years ago



## Two Chimney Rock PPD Linemen Earn Journeyman Status

Chimney Rock PPD would like to recognize Dalton Propp and Tanner Rafferty as they have earned the accomplishment of becoming Journeyman Linemen.

They have both completed one of the world's most comprehensive training programs for power line personnel. The Merchant Job Training and Safety Program is administered to line personnel in 40 states throughout the United States. The program is a self-study, 4 year program which includes "closed book" testing. Congratulations to both linemen on your accomplishment.



Pictured above left to right - Kevin Stuart-Board President, Ron Hubbard-Operations Superintendent, Dalton Propp-Lineman, Tanner Rafferty-Lineman, Travis Peterson-Board Vice-President, and Curtis Kayton-General Manager



### ***Nanny's Grape Salad***

1 cup chopped pecans  
1/3 cup white sugar  
1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
2 pounds of seedless grapes

Place pecans in a skillet over medium-low heat; cook and stir until pecans are toasted and fragrant, 3 to 5 minutes. Remove from heat and pour into a heatproof bowl; stir to prevent nuts from over-cooking.

Beat sugar, cream cheese and vanilla extract together with an electric mixer in a bowl until smooth. Fold in pecans and grapes. Stir gently until grapes are coated.



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY

### TIP OF THE MONTH

Looking for an easy way to manage home energy use? Smart plugs are inexpensive and offer convenient solutions for scheduling and controlling your favorite electronic devices.

With smart plugs, you can easily manage your coffee maker, lighting, home office equipment, video game consoles and more. Smart plugs can help you manage devices through a smart phone app, your home assistant or voice control. By conveniently powering off or scheduling devices, you can save energy (and money!).

Source: [energystar.gov](http://energystar.gov)



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**During normal office hours  
and after hours call:**  
**(308) 586-1824 or**  
**(877) 773-6300**

May Board Meeting:  
May 15th - 9:00 am

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## 5 WAYS TO SAVE THIS SUMMER

When summer temperatures rise, so do our energy bills. Here are a few ways you can reduce energy use and grow your summer savings.

**1. Raise your thermostat.**  
The smaller the difference between the indoor and outdoor temp, the more you'll save.

**2. Install window coverings**  
like blinds or light-blocking curtains to prevent indoor heat gain during the day.

**3. Seal leaks with caulk and weatherstripping** around windows and exterior doors. Air leaks force your air conditioner to work harder and run longer than necessary.

**4. Run ceiling fans** for additional cooling but turn them off when you leave the room.

**5. Lower your water heater thermostat** to 120 degrees to reduce standby heat loss.



Source: Dept. of Energy