HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC
NEWS & VIEWS

September 2021

1.877.394.7804
hillcountyelectric.coop

Craig Gates
General Manager/CEO

CEO September Message

Hill County Electric (HCE) is prepared for any kind of weather, and we urge our members to stay safe around electricity when they are working in the fields and when storms happen. Storms can happen during the heat of summer or the middle of winter. Along the Hi-Line in Montana we should be prepared for any kind of weather.

After a July thunderstorm blew down a few poles, I wanted to remind everyone to be safe around power lines. One pole blown down during the storm was held off the ground by power lines that were still energized resulting in an extremely dangerous situation. Remember to never touch and always stay away from power lines on or near the ground. You cannot tell by looking at them if the lines are energized, so stay away and call 911. It is important to HCE that our members be safe around electricity all year long.

We use electricity all the time because it is available to us at the flip of a switch, but it is easy to take it for granted. Think of how our demand for electricity has changed over the years. From the earliest electrification, lights were a modern miracle. Today we live with the convenience of electric appliances and a typical home contains on averages 10 or more internet-connected devices. All those appliances and devices are powered by electricity.

We care about you, the members we serve, and understand that electricity is a necessity not a commodity. HCE takes pride in providing safe and reliable electric service to all our members. Electricity provides so much more than just lighting. Electricity powers our daily lives, from the appliances in our homes to TVs, computers, Wi-Fi routers to keeping your smartphone charged.

I hope by the time you read this, we have gotten some much needed rain, without the storms.

ALERT TODAY, ALIVE TOMORROW:
HEADS UP FOR FARM SAFETY

AMERICA'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

Stay safe around downed power lines. Consider all lines, equipment and conductors to be live and dangerous.

If you are inside farm machinery that makes contact with a downed power line, know what to do!

If you can drive safely away from the power source without bringing down the utility pole and lines, travel at least 40 ft. before exiting.

If you are unable to drive the machinery due to injury, obstacles or it is inoperable, do NOT exit. Call for help and warn anyone nearby NOT to approach.

If the vehicle is on fire, or you must exit for other safety reasons, follow these steps:

1. Jump clear of the vehicle. Do not let any part of your body or clothes touch the ground and the machinery at the same time.
2. Land with feet together and hop away in small steps to minimize the path of electric current and avoid electric shock.
3. Keep going until you are at least 40 ft. away.
4. Call for help. Make sure no one gets within 40 ft. of the downed line.
5. Do not re-enter the area or vehicle until emergency responders and your electric co-op crews determine it is safe.

Energy Efficiency
Tip of the Month

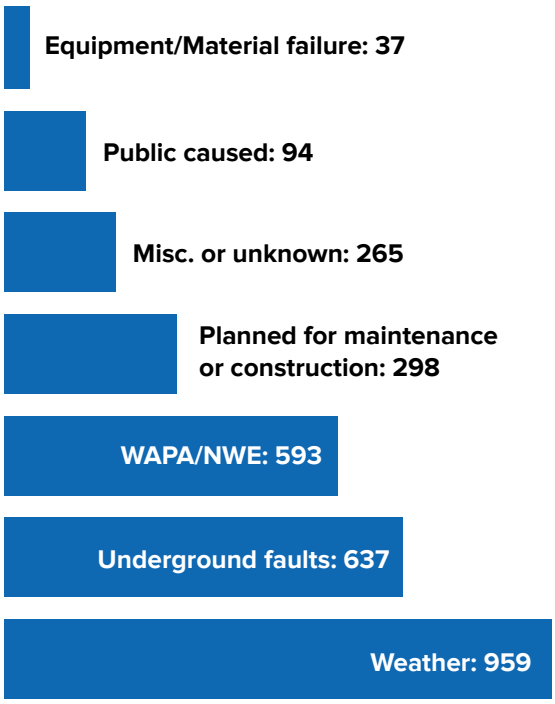
Energy used for cooling and heating your home makes up the largest portion of your monthly energy bills.

By combining regular equipment maintenance and upgrades with recommended insulation, air sealing and thermostat settings, you can save about 30% on your energy bills while helping our environment.

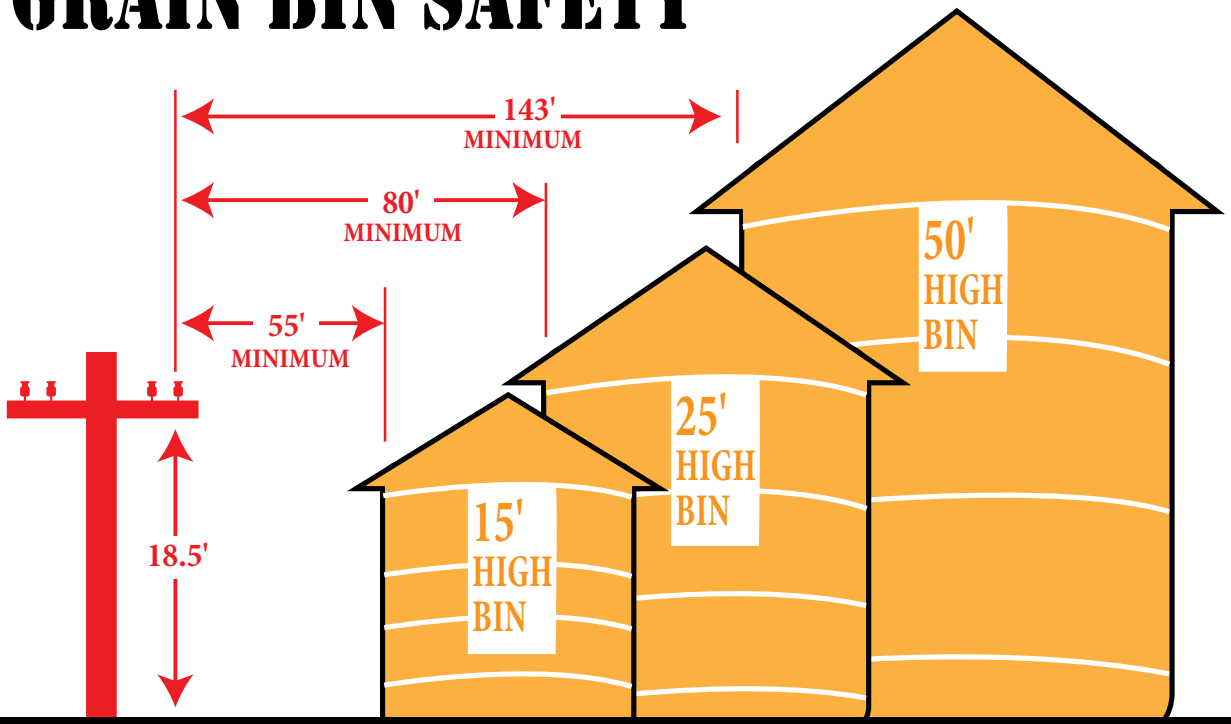
Source: energy.gov

HCE Happenings

Last month, Hill County Electric (HCE) had approximately 2,783 account hours affected by outages. Of these hours:



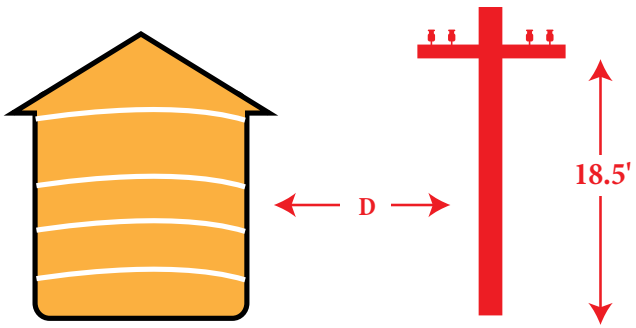
GRAIN BIN SAFETY



DANGER: HIGH VOLTAGE!

FOLLOW FARM SAFETY RULES AROUND POWER LINES

Height of grain storage structure	D=Minimum distance from line to bin wall*
15 ft.	55 ft.
20 ft.	68 ft.
25 ft.	80 ft.
30 ft.	93 ft.
35 ft.	104 ft.
40 ft.	118 ft.
50 ft.	143 ft.
60 ft.	168 ft.
70 ft.	193 ft.
80 ft.	218 ft.



*Based on a typical power line having a vertical clearance of 18.5 feet above the ground and a supply line phase to ground voltage of more than 0V to 22KV; National Electrical Safety Code Rule 232.

NRECA
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Hill County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

SWAP AND SHOP

Welcome to our Swap and Shop! Feel free to post and find classifieds from other members!

Swap & Shop is a classified advertising section of the Triangle Communications and Hill County Electric websites and newsletters. It is maintained as a service to customers and communities wanting to buy, sell and announce non-commercial items. To have an ad included, simply enter all the pertinent information on the online form. An administrator will review the information within two business days and if approved, the ad will then appear. It will stay online for 60 days unless you notify us to remove or change it. It will also appear in any of the newsletters printed during that 60 day window. Triangle reserves the right to abbreviate ads and if the section is full, we will display ads on a first come, first-served basis. If you're unable to enter your ad online you may mail or e-mail it to us using the contact info inside the front cover of this magazine. Happy swapping and shopping!

Ford Rangers
Two Ford Ranger 4x4's both supercabs and run great. One is a 1989 5-speed with 133,000 miles, very clean. Second is a 1993 with an automatic transmission, 4.0L-v6 with 129,00 miles, needs some body work and paint. Take your pick, $2,500. Call 406.378.2288.

Hot Tub
Hot tub for sale, needs work. Call 406.378.3212.

McCormick Deering Combine
1956(ish) McCormick Deering Combine. Ran great last time it was started about 10 years ago. Need to get it hauled off the place. FREE to interested person(s). Call 406.572.3317.

Farm For Sale
1175 acre farm NE of Harlem. 840 crop land, balance pasture. Available after harvest. $750.00 per acre crop land and $225.00 for grazing. Located in Township 32N Range 25E Sections 4,9,5,6,8 Blaine County. Montana cadastral site has satellite pictures of the farm. Call 406.355.4773.

HON Lateral File*
HON 2 drawer lateral file with 3 shelves that lock, 42" wide x 66" high x 19" deep. Asking $800.00, call 406.547.2409.

HON Office Desk*
38000 series, steel body 30" wide x 66" long with two drawers, locking. Asking $450.00, call 406.547.2409. Asking $5,000. Roll-top desk in good condition, asking $1,400. Call 406.622.5417.

Custom Built Kitchen Island
Island dimensions are 29 1/2" x 71 1/2" x 36" with a 2" maple butcher block top over an oak base with casters. The island has a large center storage area with an adjustable shelf that is accessible from both sides, four pull-through drawers, and a bookshelf on one end. Asking $1,000, call 307.277.5782.

Misc Items
Portable air compressor; new bolts variety of sizes by number; two 5Hp. electric motors; 1985 Versatile 5000 series blade, 35.5 ft; like new Protec toolbox-fix most full-size pickups. Call 406.378.3212.

96 Yukon Parts
Doors (passenger side). Call 406.547.2187.

Baby Items
One full-size baby crib, 1 small crib, 1 bassinet, 1 baby scale, and 2 play & pack cribs. Call 406.378.3212 for pricing.

2015 Yukon Denali
Loaded with 96,000 miles. Asking $36,500, call 406.390.3587.

Wurlitzer Fun Machine
One Wurlitzer Fun Machine with all books- used very little. Call 406.378.3212 for pricing.

Receiver Hitch
Fits on the back of the vehicle to haul items, call 406.378.3212.

Weight Bench
Weight bench with weights. Call 406.378.3212.

Items For Sale
1982 Ford Ranchero, needs some work and rear bumper replaced. Asking $5,000. Roll-top desk in good condition, asking $1,400. Call 406.622.5417.

1967 Ford Thunderbird*
This classic car runs great, has a clean interior, and is in good condition with some minor bodywork required. Asking $8,000 but will consider reasonable offers. Call 406.357.4282.

Wanting To Buy
1955-1958 Chevy car or pickup for project. Also looking for a 410 shotgun. Call 406.326.2287.

Mercury Boat Motor
Mercury outboard boat motor. 6HP, 4 cycle, long shaft. Asking $1,200, call 406.547.2184.

Antique Caterpillar Grader
Caterpillar pull-type grader from late '40s. All manual with a 12-foot blade. Asking $1,750, call 406.376.3268.

*Photo of item available to view on HCE website (www.hcelectric.com/swap-and-shop)