



HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC NEWS & VIEWS

April 2022



1.877.394.7804  
hillcountyelectric.coop

April CEO Message

The Power Behind Your Power



Craig Gates
General Manager/CEO

You have probably seen Hill County Electric's crews out in the field or working on power lines. It is no secret that a lineman's job is tough, but their job is essential and must be done, often in challenging conditions. Linemen are committed to their career. It is not just a job; it is a lifestyle. The long hours and dangerous conditions present every day can take a toll. Their job is listed as one of the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S.

During severe weather events that bring power outages, HCE's linemen are usually the first ones called. The families of our linemen are an important part of the HCE team. They understand the importance of getting the power back on for our members. Thank you to the families of our HCE crew.



Left to Right: Warren, Katie, Shane, Teresa, Jim and Jenni.

There are approximately 120,000 electric line workers nationwide. At HCE, we have ten Electric Linemen, two electricians, plus the office crew they work closely with every day. This team works to keep power flowing 24/7, 365 days a year. To do this, HCE's Linemen maintain 3,334 miles of line across five counties, serving approximately 3,887 meters. It is a team effort.

Being a lineman is not a "glamorous" job; however, it is essential to the life of our community, our state, and our country. Without the dedication and commitment of our hardworking linemen and team we would not have the reliable electricity needed for everyday life.

Please join us as we recognize Dakota, Jake I, Jake W, Jorden, Josh, Kris, Russell, Tad, Trevor and Wes, our hardworking Linemen, on April 11th for Lineman Appreciation Day!

**COMMITTED TO THE JOB.
COMMITTED TO SAFETY.
COMMITTED TO YOU, OUR MEMBERS.**

Lineman Appreciation Day - April 11, 2022



HCE Happenings

Last month, Hill County Electric (HCE) had approximately 1,795 account hours affected by outages. Of these hours:

Weather: 888

Power Supply: 641

Misc/Unknown: 193

Underground Fault: 73

Attention Irrigation Consumers

Irrigation account prepayment billing should have been received around March 2nd. Once your account is paid in full, our servicemen will be happy to connect your irrigation account when they are in the area. If you need your account connected on a specific date, please call the HCE office to schedule a time. If our serviceman needs to make a special trip, a connection fee of \$25 will be billed per meter.

Per our tariff, HCE disconnects irrigation accounts between October 25th and 31st.

Please contact Teresa Jensen in the HCE office at 406-394-7804 or 1-877-394-7804 with any questions.

ALERT TODAY, ALIVE TOMORROW: HEADS UP FOR FARM SAFETY



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



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.

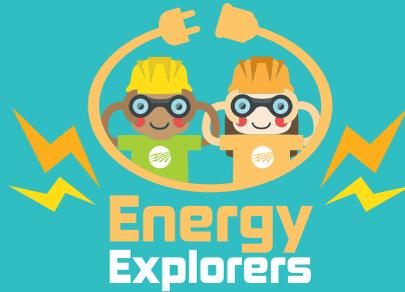
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT LINEWORKERS?

Every April, we celebrate lineworkers and the hard work they do to make sure we have electricity to power our lives.

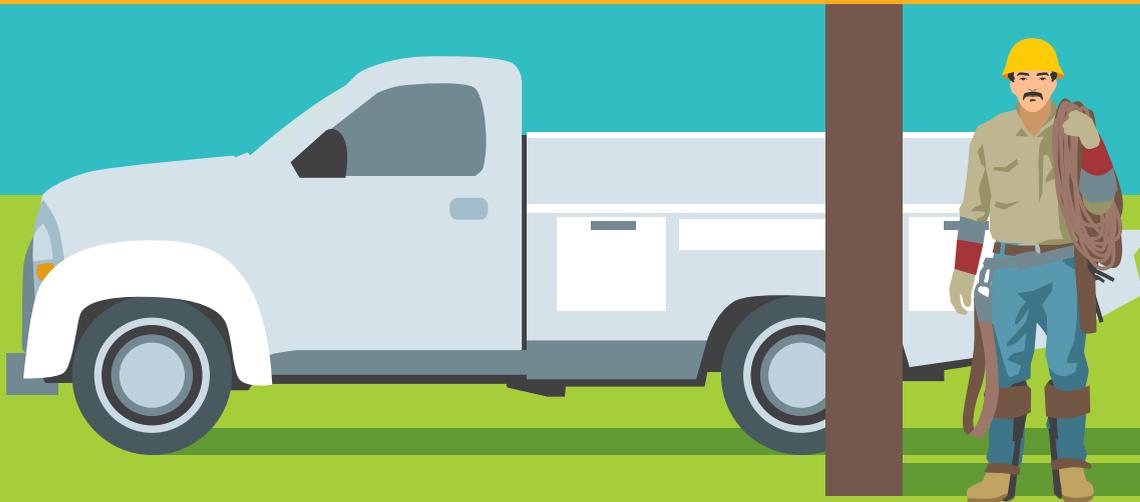
How much do you know about lineworkers?

Take the quiz below to find out!

(Use the answer key to check your work.)



1. Lineworkers have to wear a lot of gear to do their jobs. A lineworker's gear can weigh up to _____.
 - a. 15 pounds
 - b. 50 pounds
 - c. 80 pounds
2. Lineworkers maintain and repair electrical lines, but they do not install them.
 - a. True (no installation)
 - b. False (They maintain, repair *and* install lines.)
3. There are approximately _____ lineworkers in the United States.
 - a. 50,000
 - b. 90,000
 - c. 120,000
4. Lineworkers must wear _____ clothing to protect them from a possible electric arc while working.
 - a. fire resistant
 - b. extra thick
 - c. leather or rubber
5. Lineworkers must wear special conductive boots when climbing a steel structure.
 - a. True
 - b. False



Answer Key: 1) b. 50 pounds 2) b. False 3) c. 120,000 4) a. fire resistant 5) a. True

SWAP AND SHOP

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

Check out the current version online at www.hcelectric.com/swap-and-shop.

Ads submitted online are usually added within 2 to 3 business days. Due to print deadlines and space available, some ads may appear in the next magazine.

*Indicates photo available on our website version.

1973 Chevy Camper Special

Rebuilt 454 motor. TH400 transmission less with less than 1000 miles on rebuilt motor and transmission, 7200 lb. GVW. Asking \$1,000, call 406-547-2184.

10-Foot Walker Bay RID

Ready to fish, 10-foot Walker Bay Rigid Inflatable Dingy with Mercury 6 hp long shaft 4-cycle motor. Less than 100 hours on the motor. Includes trailer, life jackets and anchor. Asking \$2,500, call 406.547.2184.

Wanting To Buy

Looking to buy an 8.5 ft x 24 ft enclosed car trailer. Prefer 5200 lb. axles, ramp door. Call 406.265.0063.

Tires For Sale

Goodyear Wrangler ST P235/75R16 tire and 16-inch rim. Asking \$150, if interested call 406.378.3243.

Country Home For Sale

3.5 acres, 5 Bedroom, 2 bath home with attached 2 car garage and 40'x40' studio fully contained, two outbuildings and close to town. Call 406.395.5915 or 406.390.1575 for more details and pricing.

Wanted 55 to 59 Chevy

Wanting to buy a '55 to '59 1/2 ton Chevy or GMC pickup, running or not. Call 406.326.2287.

Well Water Treatment System

EcoSmarte clean well water system. Brand new in box, ready to install. Call 406.395.5915 or 406.390.1575 for more information.

Antique Air Compressor

Works well, call 406.395.5915 or 406.390.1575 for more information.

Log and Antler Benches

Beautiful log and antler deck furniture, 2 benches. Call 406.395.5915 or 406.390.1575 for more information and pricing.

Hot Glass Equipment For Beadmaking

Complete hot glass equipment for beadmaking, both Pyrex and Morittie. Call 406.395.5915 or 406.390.1575 for more information.

John Deere Drill Hitch*

John Deere drill hitch fits 9450 drill single hitch. Asking \$250, call 406.292.3680.

Looking For*

White Singer featherweight 221/221k with attachments, call 406-357-8701.

Bissel Cleaner

Bissel Cleaner new in box. Purchased for \$277.00, asking \$200.00. Call 406.262.3050.

Collectibles For Sale

"White" Treadle sewing machine with beautiful cabinet, swivel drawers, and changes out machine accessories. Delaval Cream Separator model #514, an electric motor has been added but also has original hand crank. Stainless steel bowl holds about 3 gallons of milk. Can adjust the thickness of cream. In good condition, call 406.663.2108.

Property and Business For Sale

Opportunity for some interested in antiques and second-hand merchandise. Two-bedroom home and one-room schoolhouse plus original GN depot and two storage buildings. Located on four lots (130x150) total along Hwy 87 between Havre and Great Falls. Sold as-is with all remaining contents and fixtures. Good hunting and fishing area. Call 406.739.4361 for more details.

Sioux Hardseat Facer and Valve Grinder

Asking \$1,500. Call 406.262.3050.

Napa Collector's 1993 Toys

Collection includes Semi-Truck and Tractor-Trailer; Jeep and boat; Sound Machine Pickup; Semi-Truck trailer; Sound Machine Semi-Trailer. All in original collector boxes. Call 406.262.3392 for more information and pricing.

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.