



# CONNECTIONS

June 2026

## CEO/GM

Kyndell Penick

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Board meetings held the third Monday of each month at 9 AM. Agenda available during business hours.

## EDITOR

Jessica Kurpgeweit

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Closed weekends and holidays

## SERVICE CENTERS

Albion, NE and Fullerton, NE

## CONTACT

23169 235 Ave • PO Box 9  
Columbus NE 68602-0009  
402 564 2821 • cornhusker-power.com

## OUTAGE CALLS 24 HOURS

(402) 564 2821

## COUNTIES SERVED

Platte, Colfax, Boone, Nance, Greeley,  
Merrick and Wheeler Counties



## Make the switch to heat pump water heaters

Most homeowners who have heat pumps use them to heat and cool their homes. But a heat pump can also be used to heat water. You may have already seen one of these units in a “big box” or appliance store and wondered what it was and how it worked.

Heat pump water heaters use electricity to move heat instead of generating heat directly through electrical resistance. It takes a lot less electricity to transfer heat than it does to generate heat. Therefore, heat pump water heaters can be two to three times more energy efficient than conventional electric resistance water heaters.

To move the heat, heat pump water heaters work like a refrigerator in reverse. While a refrigerator pulls heat from its interior and dumps it into the surrounding room, an air-source heat pump water heater pulls heat from

the surrounding air and moves it into its internal water tank. Another type of heat pump water heater has indoor and outdoor components that move heat from outside the home. Still others are integrated with other space conditioning heat pump systems, which combine all the required equipment into a single unit located inside the home.

Rooms housing heat pump water heaters should provide at least 500 to 1,000 cubic feet (28.3 cubic meters) of air space around the unit. As heat is transferred into the hot water tank, cool exhaust air can be vented back into the room or ducted outdoors. Ideal locations for installation are in spaces with excess heat, such as a furnace room. The temperature of the room in which the unit is installed will drop when it is operating by 2° F to 6° F and perhaps even more during periods of high demand for hot water.

Continued on page 2-B: Water heaters

## 2026 Goodwill Fund 2nd Qtr Results

Through Operation Roundup, Cornhusker Public Power District automatically rounds up a participating customer's electric bill to the next highest dollar. The average annual giving is \$6 per customer with a max of \$11.98 per year. Contributions are tax deductible. If you want to make a difference in your community, consider rounding up your bill. Call 402 564 2821 to participate in the program and make a **BIG** change in your community.

Funding from the Cornhusker Power Goodwill Fund is available to organizations within the counties served by Cornhusker Public Power District—Platte, Boone, Nance, Colfax, Greeley, and Wheeler. The recipient DOES NOT have to be a customer of Cornhusker Public Power District. Organizations may apply once a year. Funds shall not be used for religious or political purposes.

Applications can be found at [cornhusker-power.com](http://cornhusker-power.com). 3rd quarter applications are due by July 17, 2026.

*Thank you to all customers who round-up their bill.*

Amount	Organization/Agency	Purpose
\$100	Good Samaritan - Albion	Bingo prizes
\$300	St. Michael's School	Archery materials
\$200	Cedar Valley Community Foundation	Benches & picnic tables
\$100	Tuesday Morning Quilters	Batting
\$200	Clarkson Inclusive Playground	Playground equipment
\$100	Clarkson Rodeo	Facility upgrades
\$100	St. John's Lutheran Church	Batting
\$250	Fullerton Chamber	Flower pots
\$75	Fullerton Post Prom	Prizes
\$500	Fullerton Fire Department	Wildland tools
\$500	Park Street Medical Clinic	AED
\$250	Pawnee Sr. Center	Office chair
\$200	Howells Catholic School	Social studies books
\$200	Little Angels Child Care	CPR classes
\$100	NE FarmTok	Food for fundraiser
\$500	Humphrey Fire & Rescue	SCBA compressor
\$200	Newman Grove Public Library	Outdoor lawn games
\$200	Colfax County Sr. Center	Kitchen supplies
\$280	Spalding Academy	STEM lesson plans
\$200	Spalding Economic Dev.	New baby pool/splash pad
\$200	Spalding Sr. Center	Microwave

## Water heaters, From Page 2-A

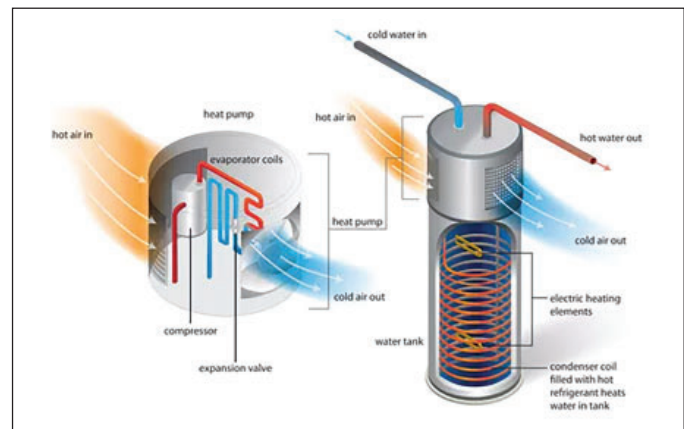
The energy to feed the heat pump water heater can come from passive solar gain, heat from a conventional heating system, the warming effect of soil surrounding a basement wall, or any other heat source. The cooling of air while the unit is operating is especially advantageous in the summer. If the unit is installed in a basement located in a humid region, it also removes moisture from the air, which reduces and may eliminate the need for a separate dehumidifier. Since the heat pump water heater operates as a dehumidifier, a condensate drain must be available.

Most heat-pump water heaters have controls that allow a homeowner to choose one of three modes of operation:

- Heat-pump-only mode (the most energy-efficient).
- Hybrid mode (heat-pump operation plus electric resistance backup).
- Electric-resistance-only mode (a mode that you could choose during cold weather, when you might not want the appliance to cool the space where it is located).

Cornhusker Public Power District, in partnership with Nebraska Public Power District, wants to help you make the most from the energy you use to produce hot water in your home or business. Customers who purchase a qualifying heat pump water heater may be eligible for an incentive up to \$650. For a full list of program guidelines, visit our website, [cornhusker-power.com](http://cornhusker-power.com).

*Source: Cory Fuehrer, NPPD Energy Efficiency Program Manager*



# Leigh welcomes Community Builders

Leigh welcomed Community Builders to their town on April 22, 2026. Tours included Leigh Community Schools by Superintendent Cole Fischer, Leigh Acres Subdivision by Village Board Chairman Scott Kurpgeweit, REDSTAR by owner Kristin Mullenhoff, and C & L Acres by owner Rachel Koch.

Justine Fischer gave a presentation on the Leigh Legacy Fund to the group of 25 during lunch at Park Place. Jessica Kurpgeweit, Cornhusker Public Power District, invited guests to give community updates happening in their area.

Community Builders helps individuals in Platte, Colfax, Boone, and Nance counties learn ways to improve their communities. Sponsors are Cornhusker Public Power District, Loup Power District, and Central Community College.



Village of Leigh Board Chairman Scott Kurpgeweit discusses the Leigh Acres Subdivision, owned by the village. The division consists of thirteen lots, nine on the north side, and four on the south side. Two of those lots have brand new homes on them.



Kristin Mullenhoff, owner of REDSTAR, shows guests their distribution facility. REDSTAR is a full-service ag dealership where they brand, manufacture, and test almost all of their own products at their Leigh facility. They offer crop and livestock insurance, ground and drone application, crop fertilizer products, lawn care, and drone trailer sales.



Leigh Legacy Fund (LLF) Board Member Justine Fischer discusses the completion of their most recent campaign, where they raised over \$1.25 million for their endowment fund in three years. LLF is an affiliate of the Nebraska Community Foundation.



(Left): Youth Advisory Committee (YAC members) Kyle McMullin, Nevaeh Zulkoski, Ava Kasik, Liz Hoffman, Karly Wendt, and advisor Justine McMullin give guests a tour of Leigh Community Schools, which enrolls 314 students. (Above): Superintendent Cole Fischer (middle) shows off the school's weight room, which is open to the public for a fee.



Owner of C & L Acres Rachel Koch shows off a bouquet of tulips she grew on her flower farm. She grows over 20 different flowers during the spring, summer, and fall.

# STAY AWAY FROM DOWNED LINES

Always assume a downed power line is **energized and dangerous**, even if it's not sparking or making noise. Know what to do to save lives.

## Keep your distance:

- Stay at least 50 feet away.
- Do not touch the line, or anything or anyone it's touching.
- Warn others to stay far back.
- Do not touch or step in water near a downed line. Water conducts electricity and creates a dangerous mix.
- Call 911 and state it's an electrical emergency.



**STAY AT LEAST  
50 FEET AWAY.**



**NEVER DRIVE  
OVER A DOWNED  
POWER LINE.**

## If you're inside your vehicle:

- Stay inside and call 911.
- Wait for utility or emergency crews to tell you it's safe to exit.
- Only leave the vehicle if there is immediate danger, like a fire.

## If you must exit the vehicle due to fire or other danger:

1. Open a door that's not touching the ground, if possible.
2. Cross your arms over your chest. Jump clear without touching the vehicle & ground at the same time.
3. Land with your feet together. Shuffle or hop, keeping your feet together, & get as far away as you can.
4. Avoid power lines that are on the ground or sagging overhead.
5. Do not go back to the vehicle until it's confirmed safe.



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### PAY YOUR BILL ONLINE

[myaccount.cornhusker-power.com/onlineportal/](http://myaccount.cornhusker-power.com/onlineportal/)



### VIEW OUR OUTAGE MAP

[cornhusker-power.com/services/power-outage/](http://cornhusker-power.com/services/power-outage/)



### FIND US ON FACEBOOK

[facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083228923860](https://facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083228923860)

### AVOID LATE FEES

Never miss a payment. Sign up for e-bill by scanning the QR code. Bills are due on the 20th of each month, regardless of when you receive your bill in the mail.

