



CONNECTIONS

May 2026

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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

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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



Spring into energy savings

Spring is a season of renewal—and a great time to refresh your energy habits, too! As temperatures begin to warm and daily routines shift, a few small changes around your home can add up to meaningful energy savings.

Cornhusker Public Power District is committed to helping our customers use energy wisely while keeping homes comfortable year-round.

Spring is the perfect time to schedule maintenance for your heating and cooling system. Spring and fall checkups conducted by a licensed professional can help ensure your system is running efficiently, safely, and reliably before the peak seasons begin. A well-maintained unit uses less energy, lasts longer, and helps prevent costly breakdowns when you need it most.

Cornhusker Public Power District offers a \$30 incentive to customers who have their units tuned up by a professional. Visit cornhusker-power.com for a full list of program details and guidelines.

If you're looking for a simple place to start saving, look no further than ceiling fans. Fans don't actually cool or heat the air, but they help you feel more comfortable by moving it. During warmer months, make sure your ceiling fan blades are set to rotate counterclockwise. This creates a downward breeze that makes you feel cooler, allowing you to raise your thermostat a few degrees without sacrificing comfort. In cooler months, reverse the direction of fan blades clockwise to help push warm air down from the ceiling, improving efficiency when your heating system is running.

Continued on page 2-C: Energy savings

ELECTRICAL SAFETY CHECKLIST



ROOM BY ROOM

Check these monthly to keep your home and family safe.

Kitchen

- Clean refrigerator coils and allow space for airflow.
- Store and use appliances away from the sink.
- Use and test GFCI outlets.
- Inspect cords for cracks or frays.
- Keep cords off counters; unplug when not in use.

Bedroom

- Place and test smoke and CO detectors on every level and near sleeping areas.
- Keep cords out from under rugs or furniture.
- Unplug devices and chargers when not in use.
- Make sure lightbulbs are the correct wattage.
- Plug window AC units into a dedicated circuit.

Basement

- Ensure washer and dryer are stable and ventilated.
- Remove dryer lint after each use.
- Set water heater to 120°F or lower.
- Have furnace inspected and confirm proper ventilation.

Bathroom

- Keep appliances away from water (sink, toilet, tub, shower).
- Unplug appliances when not in use.
- Use and test GFCI outlets.

Living Room

- Use safety caps on unused outlets, especially if children or pets are present.
- Ensure electronics have space for airflow.
- Replace cracked light switch or outlet covers.
- Avoid overloading outlets, power strips, and surge protectors.

Garage

- Use and test GFCI outlets.
- Inspect cords for cracks or damage.
- Unplug tools and appliances when not in use.
- Place garage refrigerators/freezers on dedicated appliance circuits.

Learn more at: [SafeElectricity.org](https://www.SafeElectricity.org)

Energy savings, From Page 2-A

Speaking of thermostats, adjusting the temperature just a few degrees can make a noticeable difference on your energy bill. As warmer temperatures arrive, try setting your thermostat slightly higher when cooling or slightly lower when heating. Even a two- or three-degree adjustment can reduce energy use while still keeping your home comfortable—especially when combined with ceiling fans or open windows on mild, pleasant days.

Hot water use is another area where simple habits matter. Taking shorter showers can help reduce the amount of energy used to heat water, which makes up a significant portion of most energy bills. Cutting just a few minutes off each shower not only saves energy but also conserves water.

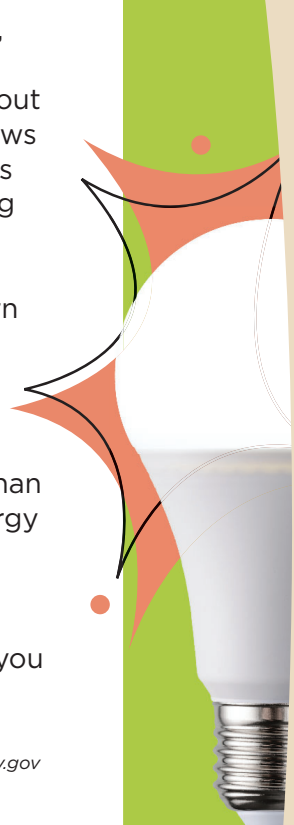
Cornhusker Public Power District is here to help every season, every step of the way. We offer energy-saving rebate programs designed to help you lower energy use for your home or business and manage costs. If you have questions or want to learn more, visit our website at cornhusker-power.com.

Source: NRECA

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

As temperatures start to rise, many homeowners focus on staying cool. Don't forget about the small gaps around windows and doors. While air sealing is often associated with keeping cold air out during winter, it's just as important during summer. Tiny cracks and worn weatherstripping allow cool, conditioned air to escape and hot, humid air to seep indoors. This forces your air conditioner to work harder than necessary and increases energy costs. Take a few minutes to check for drafts, replace weatherstripping, and seal leaks. A tighter home keeps you more comfortable and helps manage energy use.

Source: energy.gov



Why does Cornhusker Public Power District trim trees?

Trees can grow into or crowd power lines or poles, causing service issues. Electricity can arc, or jump, from a power line to a nearby tree, making it dangerous to touch. Unruly & overgrown trees can:

- ⚠️ Create a safety hazard & increase the risk of contact.
- 🔥 Create fire hazards.
- ⚡ Break off & land on power lines, causing outages.
- 🌀 Cause lights to flicker during high winds.
- ❄️ Get weighed down with ice and cause issues.

Proper pruning techniques are used to preserve tree health, although sometimes a tree must be removed if there are:

- 🌳 ⚠️ Fast-growing trees directly under power lines.
- 🌳 ⚠️ Trees that are leaning into power lines.
- 🌳 ⚠️ Trees that are declining, cracked, or split.

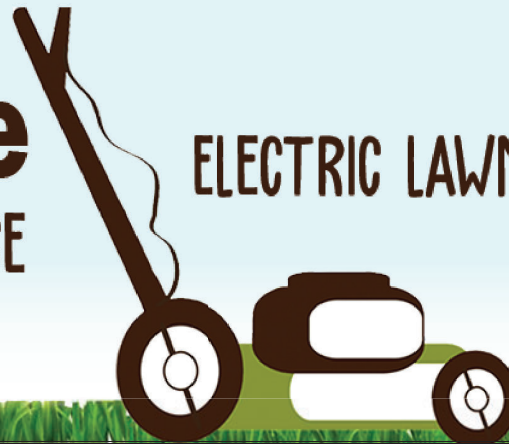
Unobstructed power lines make it easier & safer for utility crews to repair or service lines.

CPPD trims trees to improve safety and to better serve you. If you spot an overgrown tree or branch on a power line, please call us, 402 564 2821.

20% Incentive OFF PURCHASE PRICE

ENERGYWISESM
Use less. Spend less. Do more.

ELECTRIC LAWN MOWER



Power up your lawn care with electric equipment

The landscape of lawn and garden care is evolving, and electric equipment is at the forefront of this change. While electric lawn tools are not new, advancements in technology and more options mean prices have become more competitive, making electric equipment an accessible option for many consumers.

Electric lawnmowers have come a long way since the days of extension cords tethering you to an outlet. Battery-powered mowers offer the same freedom of movement as gas-powered models but with reduced noise and maintenance.

Battery life was once a major drawback to making the switch to electric lawn tools. But today's growing demand for electric equipment has resulted in major advancements for lithium-ion batteries, making them more reliable, cost-effective, and efficient. For most consumers, electric lawn tools can get the job done just as well as gas-powered models.

Many electric mowers offer push-button starts, and because they are lighter, they are easier to maneuver around tight turns. Improved batteries provide longer run times to tackle larger spaces. Like their gas-powered counterparts, electric mowers are available in push, self-propelled/walk-behind, robotic, and riding models. And there's no need to refill gas

cans or change oil and air filters, resulting in less hassle and maintenance.

Like mowers, electric blowers, string trimmers, tillers, and chainsaws have fewer moving parts, require minimal maintenance, and are quieter. Because electric tools are generally lighter in weight, they're also more ergonomic and easier to maneuver. This feature is especially handy for projects requiring tools like chainsaws for precise work.

Choosing the right type and size mower is important for spaces larger than half an acre. If you have a large property, consider purchasing an extra battery to ensure an uninterrupted workflow.

Many manufacturers offer interchangeable batteries and chargers, providing flexibility and convenience. Choosing a single brand can ensure charging compatibility across your lawn tools and streamline charging.

Electric tools are quietly redefining the way we approach lawn care. Cornhusker Public Power District offers a rebate of 20% off the original purchase price of any qualifying electric mower, tiller, or chainsaw. For a full list of program guidelines and an application, visit cornhusker-power.com.



PAY YOUR BILL ONLINE

myaccount.cornhusker-power.com/onlineportal/



VIEW OUR OUTAGE MAP

cornhusker-power.com/services/power-outage/



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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.

