



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
The power of human connections

NEWS

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

MAY 2019

Manager's Message

Dear Members: _____ *by Marlene Morss*



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Remember....

May is National Electrical Safety Month

May 12th
Mother's Day

May 27th
Memorial Day

June 16th
Father's Day

In some of my past articles, I have mentioned Tri-State Generation and Transmission. Tri-State is our power provider - we have an all requirements contract which means we are obligated to purchase our power from Tri-State. Tri-State's bylaws dictated that there was only one class of membership - which is the all requirements class. At their recent Annual Meeting the Tri-State membership (made up of 43 cooperatives) voted on a bylaw amendment to allow the Tri-State Board the option of creating additional classes of membership. This will provide current and future members more flexibility to meet their contractual obligations. This bylaw change

will give Tri-State the ability to consider flexible contract options. Also, at this last annual meeting, Mike McInnes, Tri-State CEO, was honored as he retired as of April 1st. Some of you recall he spoke at our Annual Meeting this year and last year. The new CEO Duane Highly was introduced and was well received.

At High Plains Power's 2019 Annual Meeting, the membership voted and approved the proposed bylaw amendments. The bylaws are posted on our website under the "About Us" tab. If you would rather receive a hard copy of the bylaws, contact the Customer Service Department and they will be happy to send one to you.

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Just a reminder that sign up for Budget Billing is in April and May. Applications can be found on our website at HighPlainsPower.org or you can pick one up from our Riverton office. For more information or if you have any questions please call the Riverton office at 307-856-9426 or 1-800-445-0613.



NATIONAL ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH



ESFi

SURGE PROTECTION

Keeping your Electronics and Home Safe

The National Electrical Manufacturers Association estimates that 60-80% of surges originate from internal sources (within a home or business). Keep your valuable electronics safe by protecting them from the surges that can damage or destroy them.

What is a power surge? A power surge is a sudden and unwanted increase in voltage that can damage, degrade or destroy electronic equipment. Surges can occur when large appliances, such as air conditioners, turn on and off. Surges can also originate from electric utilities or lightning.

LEVELS OF PROTECTION

GOOD Point-of-Use Surge Protection

Easy to use - just plug in.

Only protects electronics plugged into the device.

Must be replaced over time or after a major surge event.

BEST Whole Home Surge Protection

Must be installed by a qualified electrician.

Provides protection for your entire electrical system at home including large appliances, outlets, and light switches.

Protects against larger surges and provides longer lasting surge protection than point-of-use devices.

No surge protection can handle a direct lightning strike. Disconnect sensitive electronics if you suspect a surge is coming.

Power strips and surge protectors are not the same. Not all power strips offer surge protection.

Home Safety Calendar

Use this handy calendar to help keep your home safe all year long. Visit <http://virtualhome.esfi.org> to learn more about home electrical safety.

ESFi

JANUARY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test GFCIs & AFCIs Test smoke & CO alarms Inspect electrical/appliance cords for damage Check and replace furnace filters 	JULY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test GFCIs & AFCIs Test smoke & CO alarms Inspect electrical/appliance cords for damage Check and replace air conditioning filters
FEBRUARY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test GFCIs & AFCIs Test smoke & CO alarms Inspect electrical/appliance cords for damage Vacuum refrigerator coils 	AUGUST <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test GFCIs & AFCIs Test smoke & CO alarms Inspect electrical/appliance cords for damage Vacuum refrigerator coils
MARCH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test GFCIs & AFCIs Test smoke & CO alarms Inspect electrical/appliance cords for damage Replace smoke/CO alarm batteries if not done in the past 12 months 	SEPTEMBER <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test GFCIs & AFCIs Test smoke & CO alarms Inspect electrical/appliance cords for damage Schedule annual furnace cleaning and inspection
APRIL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test GFCIs & AFCIs Test smoke & CO alarms Inspect electrical/appliance cords for damage Check and replace furnace filters 	OCTOBER <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test GFCIs & AFCIs Test smoke & CO alarms Inspect electrical/appliance cords for damage Check and replace furnace filters
MAY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test GFCIs & AFCIs Test smoke & CO alarms Inspect electrical/appliance cords for damage Vacuum refrigerator coils Clean air conditioners or schedule annual inspection 	NOVEMBER <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test GFCIs & AFCIs Test smoke & CO alarms Inspect electrical/appliance cords for damage Vacuum refrigerator coils
JUNE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test GFCIs & AFCIs Test smoke & CO alarms Inspect electrical/appliance cords for damage Dust light fixtures and lamps Schedule annual inspection of gas-powered dryer 	DECEMBER <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test GFCIs & AFCIs Test smoke & CO alarms Inspect electrical/appliance cords for damage Dust light fixtures and lamps

MEMORIAL DAY

WE HONOR OUR HEROES

Here is a condensed history of Memorial Day from Wikipedia.

Memorial Day (or Decoration Day) is a federal holiday in the United States for remembering and honoring those who have died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. The holiday, is observed every year on the last Monday of May.

In April 1865, following President Abraham Lincoln's assassination, commemorations were widespread. The more than 600,000 soldiers of both sides who died in the Civil War meant that burial and memorialization took on new cultural significance. Under the leadership of women during the war, an increasingly formal practice of decorating graves had taken shape. In 1865, the federal government began creating national military cemeteries for the Union war dead.

In 1868, General John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union veterans founded in Decatur, Illinois, established Decoration Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the Union war dead with flowers. By the 20th century, various Union and Confederate memorial traditions, celebrated on different days, merged, and Memorial Day eventually extended to honor all Americans who died while in the military service.

In 1915, following the Second Battle of Ypres, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, a physician with the Canadian Expeditionary Force, wrote the poem, "In Flanders Fields". Its opening lines refer to the fields of poppies that grew among the soldiers' graves in Flanders.

In 1918, inspired by the poem, YWCA worker Moina Michael attended a YWCA Overseas War Secretaries' conference wearing a silk poppy pinned to her coat and distributed over two dozen more

to others present. In 1920, the National American Legion adopted it as their official symbol of remembrance.

In 2000, Congress passed the National Moment of Remembrance Act, asking people to stop and remember at 3:00 PM.

On Memorial Day, the flag of the United States is raised briskly to the top of the staff and then solemnly lowered to the half-staff position, where it remains only until noon. It is then raised to full-staff for the remainder of the day.



Allocation Notice for 2018 Patronage

Coming in May you will get an allocation notice for your 2018 patronage of High Plains Power. This amount is just an allocation. This will be the second year we have issued the allocation letters.

Just a couple reminders:

- This is not a check, and it does not have immediate cash value
- This amount can not be applied to your account
- This amount will be paid out in approximately 15-20 years
- If the board approves checks to be issued this year, this will NOT be the amount paid
- If you are getting a notice for a family member that has passed away, please contact our office.
- If you do move, please make sure you address is updated.

HIGH PLAINS POWER

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Dear Member-Owner of High Plains Power, Inc.,

This is a statement of your allocation of capital credits in High Plains Power for the year 2017. Capital credits represent your share of ownership in the cooperative. However, capital credits have no cash value outright and cannot be applied to your electric bill.

High Plains Power is a rural electric cooperative registered as a not-for-profit 501 (c) 12 entity. One of the benefits of being a member-owner of a rural electric cooperative is sharing in the financial success and receiving capital credits. Capital credits are distributed to the member-owner according to how much they contributed to margins during the year.

Your capital credits will be paid to you on a rotation as approved by the Board of Directors of High Plains Power. The current rotation is about 15-20 years. For example checks that were issued in December 2015 were for the distribution of the allocations assigned in year 2000.

High Plains Power Bylaws and Board Policy allows for present day discounting of capital credits to deceased members. Please contact the office for more information.

It is important that you **keep us informed of your correct address** to assure that you will receive payments of credits and other refunds in the future.

Allocation Year	Member Number	Allocation Amount
2017		\$387.20

Manager's Message *continued from page 1*

A reminder to the irrigation members – May is the month that High Plains begins invoicing the horsepower (hp) charge. The charge is the same as last year; \$7.50 per horsepower per month. This charge is applied to your monthly billing state-

ment May through August. The horsepower charge will begin even if you have not started irrigating. Years ago, the entire hp charge was assessed before the season began. So, the member was required to pay this total charge up front. It was de-

cidated that it was much easier if that charge could be broken up into 4 payments; thus, the horsepower charge May through August.

With that, we wish our farming members a safe, successful and prosperous growing season.

High Plains Power

NEWS

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General Manager
Marlene Morss

This is a monthly publication made available by High Plains Power, Inc., with the Wyoming Rural Electric News. Ideas, questions and comments are welcome.

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