



A Message from our General Manager, Chet McWhorter

Albert Einstein, who is widely considered to be a pretty smart guy, once said, "Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value." I think you can take it one step further and state that being of value makes you successful. One of the distinct advantages of how and why public power was created is that we are able to concentrate on the most important things to our customers without concern for outside interests or outside shareholders. When the customer owns the company, they call the shots through their elected directors. The directors speak for and represent the needs of the customers and the board has directed us to continually consider how to be a value for our customers.

So, what all goes into value? That is a great question. I feel that value is tangible if not particularly measurable. I further believe that most folks know value when they see it. We might not all agree on what is valuable. One person might find value in a sandwich when they are hungry or in a bottle of water when they are thirsty, but another might feel that the sandwich was too expensive to be of value and that buying water is a waste of money no matter how thirsty they may be. In my mind it goes back to what Margaret Mead said, "Always remember

that you are absolutely unique. Just like everyone else."

Warren Buffett said "Price is what you pay. Value is what you get." I'll agree with the oracle, price or cost is a huge component of value. Cost containment is a constant in our business but no matter how inexpensive a good or service might be, it is possible that cost alone will not equal value. Great service is a piece of the total value equation. At CCPPD we aim to provide excellent service. We take outage calls 24/7/365. We respond as quickly as possible to all these calls, day, or night. Further, we take any opportunity that we can to communicate with our customers and to provide satisfactory answers to any questions and to reasonably resolve any issues. With all of that, our service might not be adequate for every customer to find value in our offerings. Another portion of the value equation is the aspect of how important a good or service is to a person's daily life. Electricity has become extremely important for all of us. With that, reliable and consistent electrical service ought to be considered valuable. Nebraska ranks #1 in the nation in grid reliability. We will not rest on past

laurels but, we do feel like we are on the right track in terms of reliability.

At the end of the day, we might not agree on what is or isn't valuable. What I know for sure is that we are putting in the work to provide value to you all and that we take this part of our job very seriously. Most importantly, we value each of our customers because they are the reason that CCPPD exists, and that each employee has gainful employment. Also, I know that as Christmas and the new year are upon us, we at CCPPD want you to enjoy your holidays. I'll leave you with one more thought that speaks to me, especially during the holiday season: "Gratitude turns what we have into enough." We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous and joyous New Year!



Around the District

Replacements and Halloween!



We love our Communities!



Did You Know...?

Heating and cooling

Heating and cooling accounts for more than half of the energy use in a typical U.S. home, making it the largest energy expense for most homes.

You can save 10% per year on heating and cooling costs by using a programmable thermostat.

Use sunlight to your advantage. Choose window treatments that allow you to use natural light while reducing heat loss and gain.

Air leaks can waste a lot of your energy dollars. Sealing air leaks can save you 10-20%.

Check & replace your air filters regularly & arrange for annual maintenance with a qualified technician.

8 Tips to Heat Your Home Efficiently

Considering that space heating is typically the largest energy expense in American households, making up nearly 45% of residential energy bills, we can start there with ways to save. So grab some cocoa, pull on a cozy sweater, and check out these tips for reducing the amount of energy you use to heat up your home.

1. Fight the draft - Keep the heat from escaping by sealing up gaps or leaks around your home. Caulk windows and apply weather-strips to doors, and look for gaps around your electrical outlets. These simple tricks can save you up to 20% on your heating bill.

2. Don't block your vents - Don't make your heater work harder than it has to - make sure your furniture or drapes aren't blocking your vents. For an extra touch, vacuum out dust or pet hair from your dampers to make sure they're working effectively.

3. Reset your water heater - If you've never run out of hot water, you've probably set your water heater too high! Before winter arrives, turn down your thermostat to somewhere between 110 and 120 degrees Fahrenheit and avoid scalding your hands every time you wash up.

4. Make the switch - Check your furnace filter on a regular basis to make sure you change it when it's visibly dirty or every 3 months. Also consider getting a semi-annual "tune-up" to your heating and cooling system from a qualified contractor to ensure savings over time.

5. Insulate - The start of the cooler months is a good time to add insulation to your home. If your home has less than 12 inches of insulation, chances are your home is losing heat. Add insulation to your attic to prevent it from escaping.

6. Run your fan the right way - Even the small things help! Make sure your ceiling fan is running counter-clockwise. The warmest air in your home is closest to the roof, so when your fan runs the right way it will push that air up into the ceiling and then down along your walls, adding an extra layer of warmth.

7. Sun power - Open the curtains on your south-facing windows during the day to absorb heat from the sun's natural rays. Close curtains again at night to reduce the chill.

8. Adjust the thermostat - Whether you have a manual or programmable thermostat, EnergyStar.gov recommends a temperature of 68°F while you're awake and lower while asleep or away from home - that can save you up to 10% a year on energy.

Make an Emergency Preparedness Kit

Preparation is key to safety

No utility can prevent all power outages, especially when winter storms hit the area and trees take down power lines during wind and snow storms. It's smart to prepare for any power outage by assembling an emergency kit. Here are some basic things that would help you get through an outage lasting three to five days:

- ◆ Three-to-five day supply of non-perishable food that needs little or no cooking.
- ◆ Blankets and pillows.
- ◆ Portable, battery-powered radio and clock.
- ◆ Flashlights.
- ◆ Extra batteries.
- ◆ Manual can opener, bottle opener, and utility knife.
- ◆ First-aid kit.
- ◆ Bottled water (minimum two quarts per person per day but preferably one gallon per person per day).
- ◆ Candles (preferably battery-powered).
- ◆ Matches in a waterproof container or a lighter.
- ◆ Cooler (and keep ice or ice packs ready in your freezer).
- ◆ Personal hygiene and sanitary supplies.



- ◆ Cash (ATMs and banks may not be available).
- ◆ Pet supplies for three to five days.
- ◆ Playing cards, games, and books for entertainment.
- ◆ Prescription medications.
- ◆ Phone charger for a car.

Assemble as much as you can and put it in a storage tub in a place that is easily accessed in the event of an emergency.

Any outages, call CCPPD at 402-372-2463 or toll free at 877-572-2463.

ENERGYWISE *Rebates*

Due by December 20, 2023

- ❄️ High Efficiency Heat Pumps
\$400-\$3,300 incentives {or}
Low Interest Loan Program
- ❄️ Smart Thermostat Program
\$25-\$100 incentives
- ❄️ Cooling System Tune Up
\$30 yearly incentive
- ❄️ Attic Insulation
\$600 maximum incentive
- ❄️ Induction Cooktop
20% incentive of purchase price
- ❄️ Heat Pump Water Heater
\$400-\$650 incentives
- ❄️ Lawn Mower, chainsaw, tiller, snow blower
(all must be electric powered)
20% incentive of purchase price
- ❄️ Industrial & Agricultural Incentives

Go to: ccppd.energywisenebraska.com or call CCPPD at 402-372-2463

Cuming County Public Power District ~ 500 S Main St ~ West Point NE 68788

Cuming County Public Power District

500 South Main Street ♦ West Point NE 68788

402-372-2463 or 877-572-2463

Regular meetings of the CCPPD Board are normally held on the second Wednesday of each month at the CCPPD office

Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Find online billpay, tips to save on your electric bill, newsletters, & so much more on our website: www.ccppd.com



Greg Strehle, President
402-380-3659



Leroy Mostek, Vice President
402-380-8803



Ed Kaup, Treasurer
402-380-9417



Brad Petersen, Secretary
402-404-0588



Danny Kluthe, Director
402-720-3425



Sonya Arduser, Director
402-649-8113