

energy update



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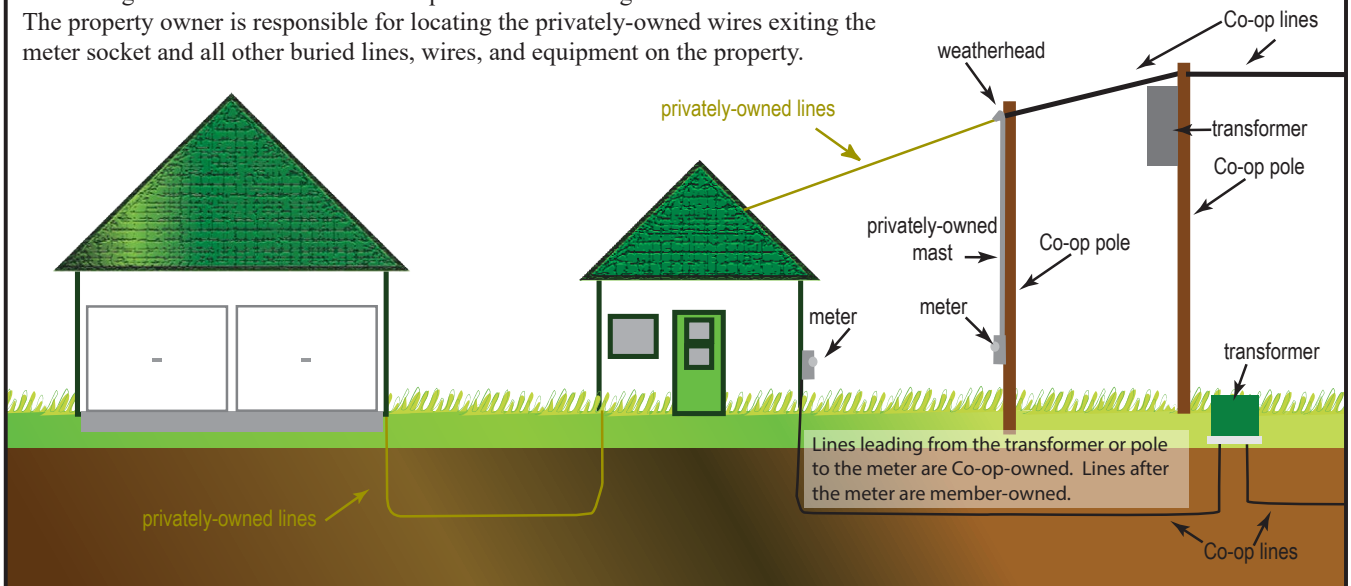
PLAN AHEAD TO CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Spring is here, and we know you're ready to get your outdoor projects started. It's important to know that you should call ahead before you start your digging. The 811 "Call Before You Dig" number routes you to your local utility locating service. Make sure to tell the operator where and when you plan to dig and what

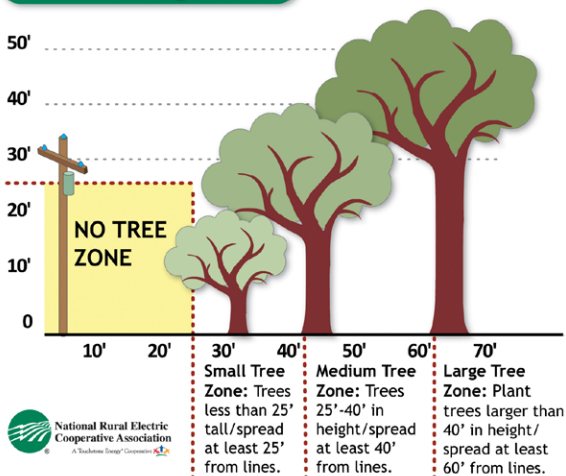
type of work you will be doing. From there, it takes a few business days for a professional to come to mark your public utilities with flags or spray paint. Make sure to plan at least 48 hours before starting any excavation work.



Co-op-owned and maintained underground lines up to the meter socket will be located at no charge to the member when the request is made through Iowa State One Call. The property owner is responsible for locating the privately-owned wires exiting the meter socket and all other buried lines, wires, and equipment on the property.

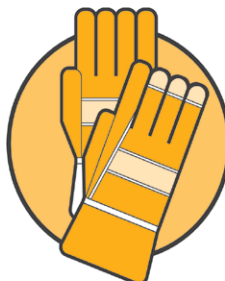


Tree Planting Guide



Five Tips for Hiring an Electrician

A licensed electrician can help with a variety of home projects from lighting upgrades to full renovations. Keep the following tips in mind if you're looking to hire an electrician.



- 1. Hire a licensed, qualified electrician for the job.**
Look for a master electrician to manage the project. Master electricians have the most experience and will often oversee the work of a journey-level electrician or apprentice.
- 2. Make sure the electrician is insured.**
Seasoned electricians know the importance of protecting themselves in case of an accident.
- 3. Read all the reviews.**
Hire an electrician that has several positive reviews - not just one or two. Read reviews on different sites, like Nextdoor, Yelp and HomeAdvisor, and consider asking your neighbors for recommendations.
- 4. Determine your budget. Get two quotes.**
Knowing your budget upfront helps move the process along. Prices can greatly vary, so get multiple quotes (at least two).
- 5. Talk timeline.**
Some electricians accidentally overbook projects. If your job is time-sensitive, convey that early on and discuss a realistic timeline with the electrician.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month


Even in summer months, adding insulation to your attic can keep your home more comfortable and save energy used by your cooling system. If your attic insulation is level with or below your floor joists (meaning you can easily see your joists), you should add more. If you can't see any of the floor joists because the insulation is well above them, you likely have enough insulation. Attic insulation should be evenly distributed with no low spots. Make sure the areas along the eaves are adequately covered.

Source: energystar.gov

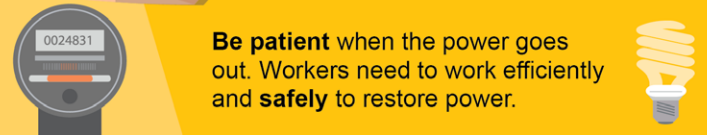
NOTICE

Your enclosed statement arrived this month in a white envelope versus the yellow envelope you are accustomed to receiving. This change is due to supply chain issues, and we will go back to the yellow envelope as soon as supplies are available.





HELP KEEP ELECTRIC LINE WORKERS SAFE



Be patient when the power goes out. Workers need to work efficiently and **safely** to restore power.

ZONE IN ON SAFETY


Respect roadside work crews.

Don't drive distracted.
Reduce your speed.
Change lanes.


1 work zone crash occurs every **5.4 minutes**

70 work zone crashes result in **injuries each day**

12 work zone crashes result in at least **1 fatality each week**




Never plug a generator into a wall outlet in your home or garage. The power that back feeds into the electric line could **electrocute a utility worker** or neighbor.



DON'T post signs on utility poles.

Foreign objects can **tear utility workers' protective clothing**, which is the first line of protection from an **electric shock**.

Electric line workers **RANK 15** on the list of **25 MOST DANGEROUS JOBS** in America. Help keep them safe!



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