

CMS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

The Enlightener

CMS Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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Lightbulb Winners

Congratulations to this month's lightbulb winners:

- ▶ Jobe Garrison
- ▶ Ryan Hamlin
- ▶ Herman Loeb
- ▶ Bruce McKissick
- ▶ Rachel Eppens
- ▶ Clark Gates

Contact us today for your free lightbulbs!



Nondiscrimination

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Electric Lineworkers Keep the Power Moving

When people flip a light switch, they may not give much thought to why or how the light comes on.

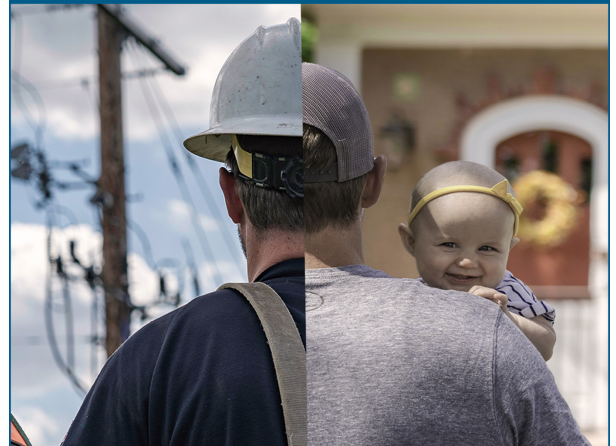
Electric lineworkers provide an essential service: They work hard to install and maintain overhead and underground power lines that keep electricity flowing. These specialized workers are on call 24/7 in case severe storms or other circumstances cause the power to go out.

Lineworkers work with high-voltage electricity, often at great heights, in all kinds of weather conditions, such as snow, wind, rain, ice and extreme heat and cold. The work required to maintain the power grid is physically demanding. To become proficient, most lineworkers go through a technical training program and first learn on the job as apprentices under the careful eye of seasoned lineworkers who have earned journeyman status.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, electric power line installers and repairers typically:

- ▶ Install, maintain and repair the power lines that move electricity.
- ▶ Identify defective devices, voltage regulators, transformers and switches.
- ▶ Inspect and test power lines and auxiliary equipment.

LINEWORKER APPRECIATION DAY



APRIL 11, 2022

We thank lineworkers for their courage and commitment to powering our community.

- ▶ String (install) power lines between poles, towers and buildings.
- ▶ Climb poles and transmission towers and use truck-mounted buckets to get to equipment.
- ▶ Operate power equipment when installing and repairing poles, towers and lines.
- ▶ Drive work vehicles to job sites.
- ▶ Know and implement safety standards and procedures.

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PLANNING A DIGGING PROJECT ON YOUR PROPERTY?

If you dig without knowing what is located below, you could damage an underground line.

Not only could you be seriously injured, but you will be responsible for the cost of repairs. To avoid hassles and fines, **CALL 811**, the Call Before You Dig number, at least two business days prior to breaking ground.

NOTE 811 locators do not mark privately owned underground lines, such as service to outbuildings, sprinkler systems or invisible fences.

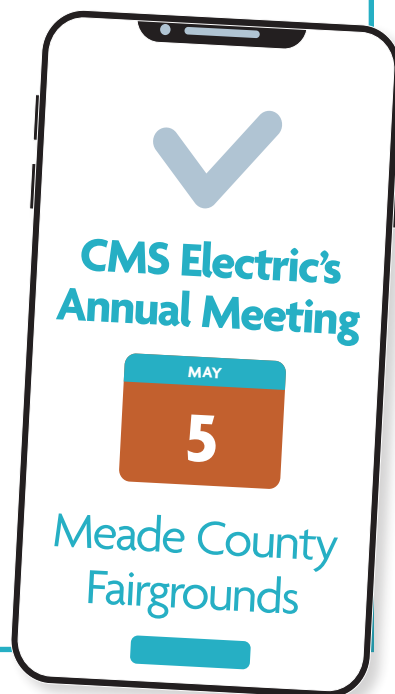
**AN UNEVENTFUL
DIGGING PROJECT
IS THE BEST KIND
TO HAVE.**

Join us at the 76th CMS Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 5, at the
Meade County Fairgrounds

The 2022 CMS Annual Meeting of the members will be on Thursday, May 5 at the Meade County Fairgrounds in Meade, Kansas. There will be a delicious meal, catered by John Ross, for all cooperative members and their immediate family starting at 5:30 p.m. The business meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Business will include reports on cooperative activities and the election of trustees. Valuable prizes and many Energy Credit Certificates will be given away at the conclusion of the meeting. You must be present at the time of drawings to win. Please don't miss your annual meeting. Your participation is important!



CMS Board Positions Open for Election

The Board of Trustees of CMS Electric Co-operative, Inc. announce the following trustee's terms will expire in 2022 and their positions are open for election.



Ron Oliver



Michael Johnson



Joe Murphy

- ▶ District 1, Position B **RON OLIVER**
- ▶ District 2, Position B **MICHAEL JOHNSON**
- ▶ District 3, Position B **JOE MURPHY** (*not planning to seek re-election at this time*)

The board also announces that members wishing to serve on the board of trustees shall be nominated by presenting a petition to the cooperative office with the signatures of 15 valid members within the district they are to represent.

Blank petitions are available at the cooperative office in Meade, or call and one will be mailed to you. Completed petitions are due to the CMS office **BY APRIL 5, 2022.**

If you need additional information, please call CMS at 800-794-2353.

Electric Lineworkers Keep the Power Moving

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When a problem is reported, lineworkers must identify the cause and fix it. This usually involves diagnostic testing using specialized equipment and repair work. To work on poles, they usually use bucket trucks to raise themselves to the top of the structure, although all lineworkers must be adept at climbing poles and towers when necessary. Workers use specialized safety equipment to keep them from falling when climbing utility poles and towers.

Storms and other natural disasters can cause extensive damage to power lines. When power is lost, line repairers must work quickly to restore service to customers.

Although everyone at CMS Electric works hard to provide reliable service, we salute our lineworkers who work around the clock to keep the power on. Their safety, as well as yours, is our top priority.

SOURCE: U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS



We know everyone in our community enjoys the beauty and shade that trees provide. But trees and power lines can be a dangerous mix without regular trimming during the growing season.

If you see us out in the community trimming, remember the many benefits it brings:

- Keeps power lines clear of tree limbs.
- Helps us restore power outages more quickly.
- Keeps crews and members of our community safe.
- Reduces unexpected costs for repairs.

Trimming improves service reliability for you, the members we serve.



WORKPLACE DISTRACTIONS

CAN LEAD TO ERRORS AND ACCIDENTS

Speak up about repeated and unsafe distractions and take responsibility for not interrupting or distracting others, especially during a critical job phase and process.

DISTRACTIONS INCLUDE:



External Noise

Personal Issues



Complacency

Electronic Devices



Talking to Co-workers

Pressure to Meet Quotas



SOURCE: OSHA

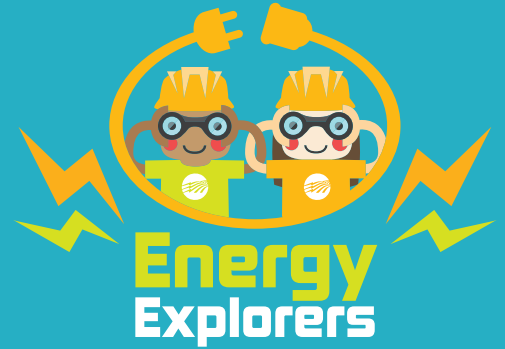
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT LINEWORKERS?

Every April, we celebrate lineworkers and the hard work they do to make sure we have electricity to power our lives.

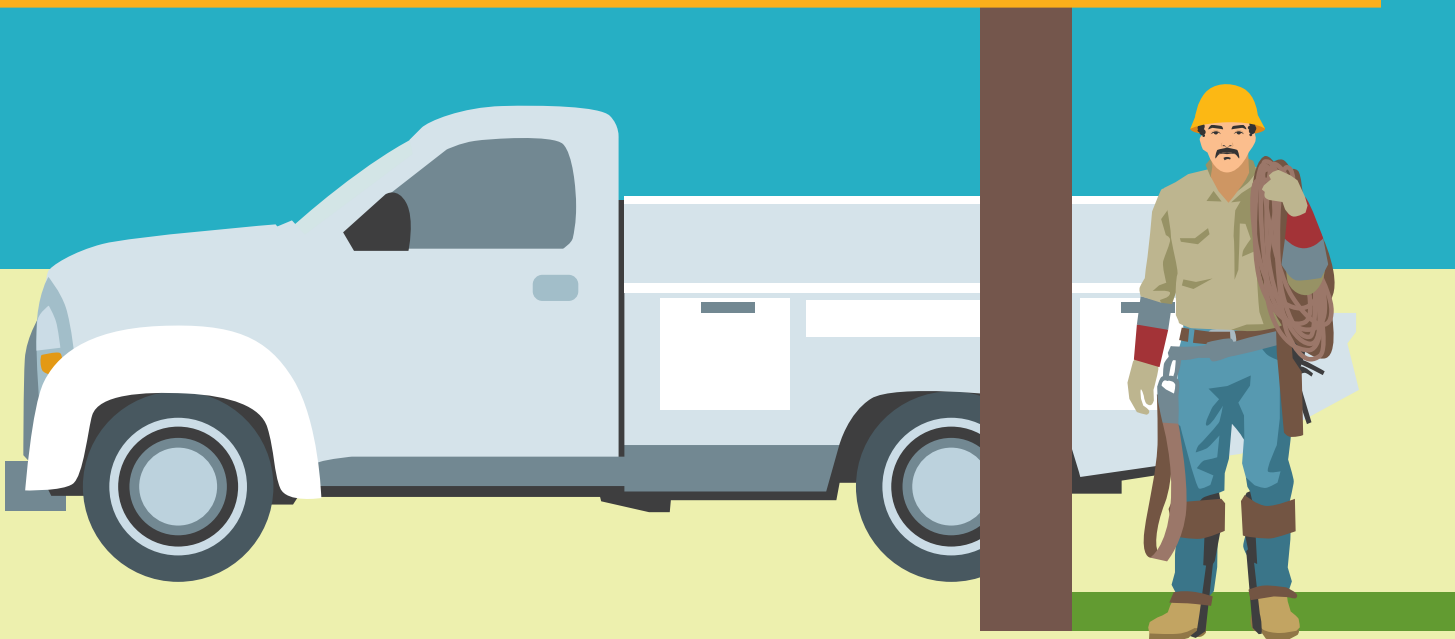
How much do you know about lineworkers?

Take the quiz below to find out!

(Use the answer key to check your work.)



- a. Lineworkers have to wear a lot of gear to do their jobs. A lineworker's gear can weigh up to _____.
 - a. 15 pounds
 - b. 50 pounds
 - c. 80 pounds
- b. Lineworkers maintain and repair electrical lines, but they do not install them.
 - a. True (no installation)
 - b. False (They maintain, repair and install lines)
- c. There are approximately _____ lineworkers in the United States.
 - a. 50,000
 - b. 90,000
 - c. 120,000
- d. Lineworkers must wear _____ clothing to protect them from a possible electric arc while working.
 - a. fire resistant
 - b. extra thick
 - c. leather or rubber
- e. Lineworkers must wear special conductive boots when climbing a steel structure.
 - a. True
 - b. False



Answer Key: 1) b. 50 pounds 2) b. False 3) c. 120,000 4) a. fire resistant 5) a. True