



CLARKE
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Safety Driven • Energy Smart • Community Invested

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



Volume 83, No. 6 | June 2023

HEADLINES

SAFETY DRIVEN | ENERGY SMART | COMMUNITY INVESTED

COMMUNITY INVESTED



Hope Learning Center Co-Assistant Director Destiny Dawson accepts Operation Round-Up funds from Jason Gibbs, Clarke Electric.

Local Daycare Receives Operation Round-Up Grant

Helping children meet their physical and developmental needs and keeping them safe is the heart of Hope Learning Center. And, thanks to a \$1,525 grant from Clarke Electric's Operation Round-Up program, the daycare can replace its door security system with a more reliable,

state-of-the-art security system.

Located in Chariton, Hope Learning Center is a fully licensed daycare provider with enough room for 135 children. For more information, find them on Facebook at facebook.com/hopelearningcenteria.

Congratulations to Our Scholarship Winners!

As an electric cooperative invested in both the communities we serve and providing opportunities for youth, Clarke Electric is pleased to announce the recipients of this year's scholarships.

This year, the cooperative awarded a total of \$10,000 to 16 graduating seniors in eight local school districts. Congratulations to these students!



CEC Director Randy Barnard, right, presented scholarship awards recently to Clarke Community High School students, from left: RJ McCoy, Lane Whirrett, and Sonny Conrad.

Matthew Coffelt
Central Decatur CSD, Leon

Adam Young
Central Decatur CSD, Leon

Macy Smith
Chariton CSD, Chariton

Mason Fry
Clarke District, Osceola

Sonny Conrad
Clarke District, Osceola

Lane Whirrett
Clarke District, Osceola

RJ McCoy
Clarke District, Osceola

Jack Knoll
I-35 CSD, Truro

continued on pg. 4

Reading pays! We have hidden two of our members' account numbers in this issue. If you find your member location number, call during June to have \$10 deducted from your monthly energy account.



ANNUAL MEETING Sept. 11

Save the date for Clarke Electric's 83rd Annual Meeting of the Membership Monday, Sept. 11, 2023. Again this year, the co-op will host the meeting as a drive-thru event at its headquarters, 1103 N. Main, Osceola. Plan to stop by to return your election ballot, grab a dinner and free gift.

We're seeking three candidates to run in the annual meeting election. You can read more about the process in the May issue of this newsletter (also posted on our website under "News & Community"). If you're interested or have questions, please call our office at (800) 362-2154.

ENERGY SMART

Together we can BEAT THE PEAK



Run your washer or dryer during off-peak times such as before 3 p.m. or after 8 p.m.

Raise your thermostat a few degrees

Turn off all lights during the day or in empty rooms

Supplement air conditioner use with ceiling fans to keep cool

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Looking for additional ways to save energy this summer? Your laundry room is a great place to start. Wash clothes with cold water, which can cut one load's energy use by more than half. Your washing machine will use the same amount of energy no matter the size of the clothes load, so fill it up when you can. When drying clothes, separate the heavier cottons. Loads will dry faster and more evenly if you separate heavier cottons like linens and towels from your lightweight clothing.



SAFETY DRIVEN

Safety On Call

"Mayday, mayday, mayday!" Did you know that the term "mayday" was conceived in the early 1920s to indicate distress and be easily understood over radio communications?

"Mayday" isn't a term the Clarke Electric employees want to utter or hear in real life. A recent drill conducted by the Iowa Assn. of Electric Cooperatives (IAEC) helps our staff be prepared for a medical emergency in the field. The first step is to call for help by repeating "mayday" over the radio.



Apprentice Lineman Dom Cresta works on his pole top rescue techniques.

Every month, our linemen participate in safety training and education hosted by IAEC. They practice procedures and are tested on competencies designed to keep them knowledgeable and calm during emergency situations. Yearly, this training includes pole top rescue, a technique for helping a lineman who may be unconscious after coming in contact with dangerous electricity. During the training, the linemen must demonstrate how they call for help, climb the pole, lower a 200lb. mannequin to the ground, climb down the pole and begin administering CPR. From start to finish, the rescue must be completed in less than four minutes. 10-06-09-00

Our goal at Clarke Electric is to make sure everyone returns home safely at the end of the day. Even though we hope to never have to use these techniques, we know that practicing them regularly will help our linemen know what to do so they can act quickly, cautiously, and perhaps save someone's life.

CALL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG

Digging without locating underground utilities could leave neighborhoods in the dark, cause thousands of dollars in damages or cause severe electrical shock.



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.



www.iowaonecall.com

Contact Us Before You Build a New Grain Bin

If you're considering building a new grain bin this spring, remember that it's important to first contact Clarke Electric Cooperative.

Clarke Electric Cooperative will provide assistance in planning for a safe environment for everyone working and living around grain bins.

The State of Iowa requires specific clearances for electric lines around grain bins, with different standards for those filled by portable and permanent augers, conveyors and elevators.

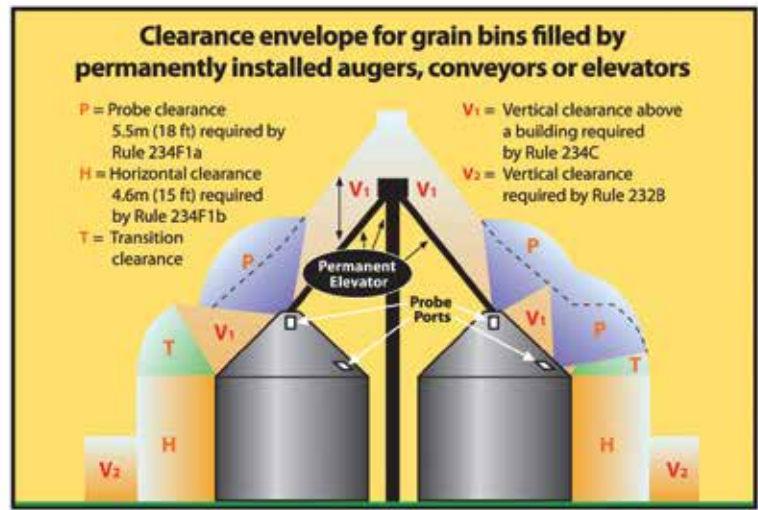
The drawings on this page show the specific clearances required for both scenarios. If you have any questions, please call Clarke Electric at (800) 362-2154.

According to the Iowa Electric Safety Code found in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 199 -- 25.2(3) b.: *An electric utility may refuse to provide electric service to any grain bin built near an existing electric line which does not provide the clearances required by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) C2-2017 "National Electrical Safety Code," Rule 234F. This paragraph "b" shall apply only to grain bins loaded by portable augers,*

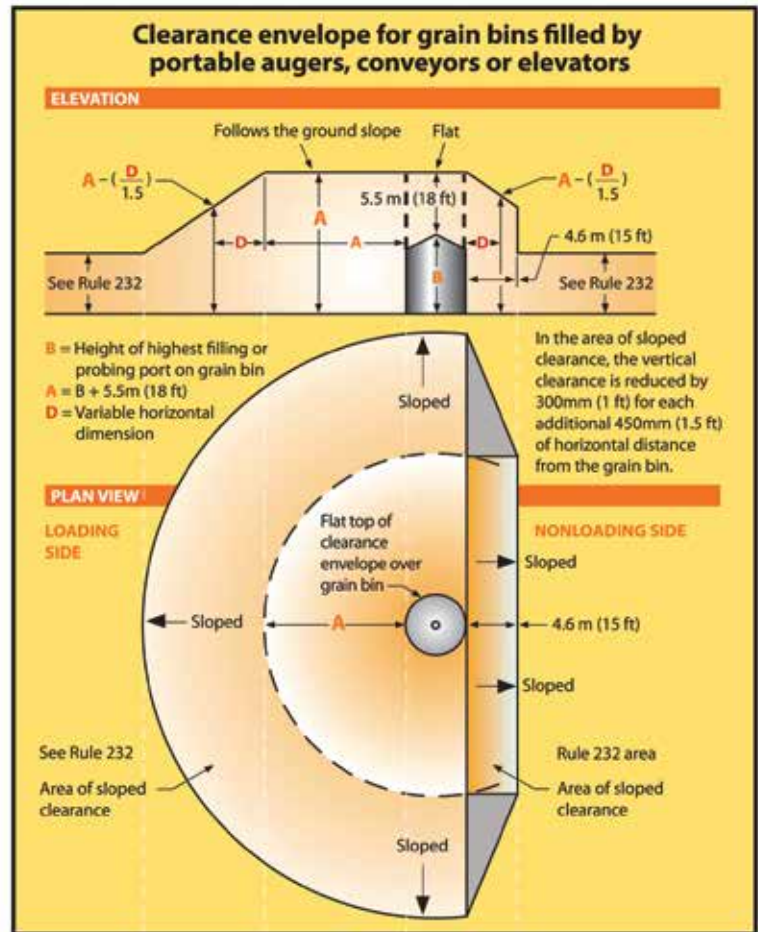
conveyors or elevators and built after September 9, 1992, or to grain bins loaded by permanently installed augers, conveyors, or elevator systems installed after December 24, 1997. (As adopted by the Iowa Utilities Board)

Clarke Electric Cooperative is required by the Iowa Utilities Board to provide this annual notice to farmers, farm lenders, grain bin merchants, and city and county zoning officials. If you have any questions concerning clearance regulations, please contact the cooperative.

Disclaimer: These drawings are provided as part of Iowa electric cooperatives' annual public information campaign and are based on the 2017 edition of the National Electrical Safety Code. To view the actual drawings, refer to that publication. Every care has been taken for the correctness of the contents for these drawings. However, the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives and its member cooperatives accept no liability whatsoever for omissions or errors, technical inaccuracies, typographical mistakes or damages of any kind arising from the use of the contents of these drawings, whether textual or graphical.



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April Outages

Unknown: 6
Equipment failure: 3
Lightning: 3

Trees: 3
Animal/bird: 2
Construction: 1
Customer caused: 1



WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU? @ cecnet.net



Statewide
outage map



Leased Light
Program



SmartHUB



Rebates &
Online Forms



Operation
Round-UP



Call Before
You Dig



Email
newsletters



RECare

Replacing Poles to Improve Reliability and Safety

Clarke Electric Cooperative takes pride in the reliability of the electric service we provide to our member-consumers. Part of this can be attributed to our systemwide maintenance program that includes annual pole inspections.

The cooperative hires an outside contractor to provide the testing, analysis and recommendations for replacing poles within Clarke

Electric's service territory. Identifying poles in need of replacement is the purpose of this inspection process. CEC crews recently replaced poles in the Medora substation area that were determined to have reached the end of their life span. 32-03-06-50

Wood utility poles have a typical lifespan of about 30 years. Typically, that amount



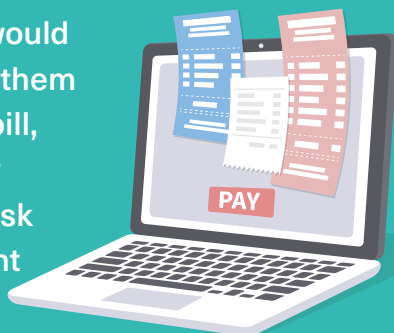
Pictured is Apprentice Lineman Hunter Koehn on the pole, Apprentice Lineman Zach Stewart in the bucket, and Apprentice Lineman Jarad Taylor, operator.

of time spent exposed to the elements of Iowa's climate takes it toll and compromises the structural integrity of the pole. Additionally, pests, moisture and vegetation can all weaken a utility pole.

Our cooperative strives to replace these poles in a timely manner to ensure both electric service reliability and safety.

NOTE TO OUR MEMBERS

If you have more than one account and would like to consolidate them into one itemized bill, please contact our office for details. Ask for "invoice account options."



Scholarships...from pg. 1

Margaret Vonnahme
I-35 CSD, Truro

Jasmine Jensen
Indianola CSD, Indianola

Leia Jones
Indianola CSD, Indianola

Cali Arnold
Mormon Trail CSD,
Humeston

Jalie Baumfalk
Murray CSD, Murray

Teryn Shields
Murray CSD, Murray

Jada Chew
Murray CSD, Murray

Josie Kosman
Southeast Warren Schools,
Liberty Center

**Nominate a
local volunteer
in June and they
could win \$2,500
for their charity!**



IowaShineTheLight.com



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OFFICE HOURS

Mon.-Fri.: 7:30 AM - 4 PM | Outside depository available 24/7

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Vice President: Randy Rouse
Secretary: Larry Keller
Treasurer: Lydda Youmans
Asst. Sec./Treasurer: Randy Barnard

Directors
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Marni Kelso
Cody Miller
Natalie Rydl

GENERAL MANAGER

David Opie

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.