



**DSO ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE, INC.**

DSO
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

HEADLINER

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Nick Peterson Operations Manager	Ashley Pfizenmaier Communications Manager
Marla Marshall CFO	

OFFICE HOURS

8 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday

PAYMENT LOCATIONS

**CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK IN
WALMART SUPERCENTER**
521 E. Chestnut St., Junction City, KS 66441
FARMERS STATE BANK
447 Harrison, Lindsborg, KS 67456

OUTAGE INFORMATION

**IN CASE OF AN OUTAGE, CALL
800-376-3533.** After-hours calls will be answered by dispatch and forwarded to standby personnel.

FIND OUT MORE

facebook.com/DSOElectricCooperative
 @DSOElectricCoop

Who Owns What?

Understanding electric equipment responsibilities

It is important for homeowners to understand which parts of the electric system are their responsibility and which are maintained by DSO. Understanding these key differences can help speed up repairs and ensure everyone stays safe.

DSO is responsible for maintaining and repairing the equipment and lines that run to your home, including utility poles, distribution power lines, electric meters and pad-mounted transformers.

DSO members are responsible for the equipment located between the electric meter and your home or business, including any underground service lines that lead into the structure and the service panel. Members are also

responsible for the weatherhead and service mast located outside the home.

If any equipment that you (the homeowner) are responsible for is damaged, then please contact a licensed electrician for repairs. A professional can properly assess the damage and complete the repairs safely.

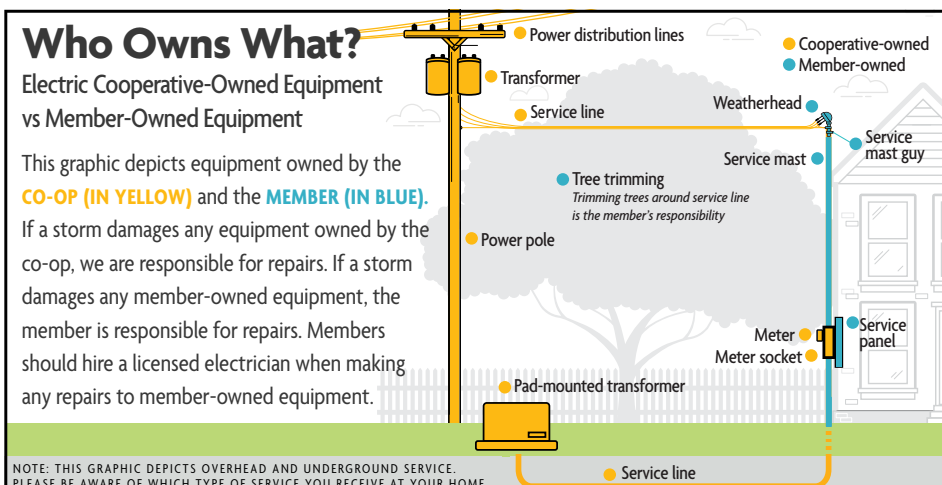
When severe weather damages electrical equipment, it's important to note that any necessary repairs to the homeowner's equipment must be conducted before DSO crews can restore power to your home or business. By understanding the equipment you are responsible for, the repair and restoration process will be smoother and faster.

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Who Owns What?

Electric Cooperative-Owned Equipment vs Member-Owned Equipment

This graphic depicts equipment owned by the **CO-OP (IN YELLOW)** and the **MEMBER (IN BLUE)**. If a storm damages any equipment owned by the co-op, we are responsible for repairs. If a storm damages any member-owned equipment, the member is responsible for repairs. Members should hire a licensed electrician when making any repairs to member-owned equipment.



WHO OWNS WHAT?

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As for trees and foliage, please know that regular trimming is essential to ensure reliable electric service and minimize damage from future severe weather. DSO regularly trims trees throughout our service territory to improve service reliability. If you spot a tree limb that is obstructing a distribution power line, please call DSO so we can trim those limbs and maintain those lines.

Any overgrown limbs or vegetation around the service line is the homeowner's responsibility, and in these cases, please call a professional tree trimming service to assist.

By working together to understand the essential equipment that powers daily life, we can all be better prepared to start the repair and restoration process.

If you have any questions about your electrical equipment, we're here to help. Please contact DSO at 800-376-3533.

Burgett Retires

After 27 years of dedicated service, **HERBERT BURGETT** has retired from DSO Electric.

Burgett began his career as a tree foreman before transitioning to member services, where he spent the majority of his career assisting with locating services. Along the way, he built lasting relationships with members and coworkers and became known for his dependable nature and willingness to lend a hand whenever needed.

He has been a valued member of the DSO family, and his knowledge, dedication and friendly personality will be greatly missed. We are grateful for his 27 years of service and the positive impact he has made on our cooperative.



After 27 years, Herbert Burgett has retired from DSO Electric.

SAFETY TIP

Heading to college? Never charge your phone under a pillow, on bedding or in bed with you. It can overheat and cause burns or start a fire. Instead, set up a dedicated charging station on a hard surface in your room.



SOURCE: WWW.SAFEELECTRICITY.ORG

FIND US IN THE COMMUNITY AT:

2026		AUGUST						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
						1		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
30	31							

TAMPA TRAIL FEST 2026

Saturday, Aug. 29
starting at 4 p.m.



with our safety demo table, popcorn and prizes

Avoid Fines, Injuries and Power Outages: Call 811

National Safe Digging Day, or 811 Day, is upon us. Easy to remember because of its 8/11 date, the day is a good reminder to get underground utilities marked prior to breaking ground. Having utilities marked is free and easy to do; simply call 811 two to three business days prior to starting your project. While state laws vary, utility companies generally have two to three days to respond to your request.

Why is it necessary to get buried utilities marked? Underground lines are unyielding, and their path is unpredictable. Digging in an unmarked yard can mean striking an underground utility line, which can cause serious injury. Damaging a utility line can also cause unwanted service disruptions, including a power outage, as well as a hefty fine.

"While it can be tempting to skip the important step of calling before you dig, it can be a costly and dangerous omission," says Erin Hollinshead, executive director of Safe Electricity. "Underground utility lines could be anywhere. They also shift over time and can be found just a few inches from the surface."

Every project, big or small, requires advance notification to 811. To start the underground utility marking process, call 811 or visit www.call811.com. Examples of projects that require utility location include putting up a fence, installing a mailbox post, building a deck or patio, and planting trees and shrubs, among others. Any project that breaks ground requires that underground utilities be marked.

If a contractor is involved, check with that person to determine who will make the request. Locators do not mark private lines such as service to outbuildings, underground sprinkler systems or a gas line to a grill, for example. Private lines are the responsibility of the homeowner.



Before digging in, take these five steps to safer digging:

- 1** Pre-mark the proposed dig area with white paint or white flags.
- 2** Call 811 or go online to submit your locate request before you dig. There is no charge for the service.
- 3** Wait the required amount of time (typically two to three business days).
- 4** Respect the marks and do not move any flags.
- 5** Dig with care. Avoid digging on top of or within 18-24 inches on all sides of utility marks, which may mean moving your digging project to another part of your yard.

For more information about electrical safety, visit www.safeelectricity.org. For more information about 811, visit www.call811.com.

**HAPPY
LABOR DAY**

In observance of the holiday,
our office will be closed on Monday, Sept. 7.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

August heat can push your air conditioner hard, making now a good time to check the air filter. A dirty filter restricts airflow, reduces efficiency and increases wear. Inspect it monthly during heavy use and replace it when dirty to help your system run better, improve indoor air quality and keep your home comfortable. SOURCE: NRECA





SCHOOL BUS SAFETY TIPS

School buses are among the safest vehicles on the road — but the greatest risk comes when children are getting on or off the bus. Whether you're a driver, parent or student, knowing these safety tips will help keep everyone safe.

FOR DRIVERS:

- ▶ **SLOW DOWN:** Reduce speed in school zones and near bus stops.
- ▶ **KEEP YOUR DISTANCE:** Stay back at least 10 feet from a school bus — this is the most dangerous area for children.
- ▶ **KNOW THE SIGNALS:**
 - ▶ Yellow flashing lights: bus is preparing to stop — slow down.
 - ▶ Red flashing lights + stop arm: bus is loading/unloading — stop and wait until the bus moves again.
 - ▶ Never pass a stopped bus on an undivided road — it's illegal in most states.
- ▶ **STAY ALERT:** Watch for kids who may unexpectedly enter the road, especially near bus stops.
- ▶ **RESPECT THE ZONE:** When flashers are blinking in a school

zone, stop for pedestrians at crosswalks and take extra care to look for children near playgrounds, parks and residential areas.

FOR PARENTS:

Teach your child to arrive at the bus stop at least 5 minutes early, and how to play it SAFE:

- ▶ Stay at least 10 feet — five giant steps — from the curb.
- ▶ Always wait for the bus to stop and the driver to signal before boarding.
- ▶ Face forward and buckle up if seat belts are available.
- ▶ Exit carefully, look both ways, and cross in front of the bus — never behind. Make eye contact with the driver before crossing.

As students head back to school, remember: A moment of caution can prevent a lifetime of regret.

SWIMMING POOL SAFETY WORD SCRAMBLE

Dive into this word scramble challenge! Read the pool safety tips below to uncover the scrambled words. Remember these tips to stay safe while having fun in the sun.

Double check your work in the answer key.

- 1 Never swim without an **LUTDA** nearby, even if you know how to swim.
- 2 Walk around the pool. **GUNRNIN** on wet surfaces can cause slips and falls.
- 3 Wear **CESSRNUEN** and drink plenty of water to stay safe in the summer heat.
- 4 Keep **CILARCTEEL** devices, cords and speakers far away from the water.
- 5 If you see lightning or hear **DREHTNU**, get out of the pool immediately and go indoors.

