

POWER LINE

March 2025



Redwood Electric Cooperative

60 Pine Street • Clements, Minnesota 56224

Ron Horman Announces Upcoming Retirement

Redwood Electric Cooperative (REC) and South Central Electric Association (SCEA) announce the upcoming retirement of their shared CEO, Ron Horman. Mr.

Horman has been at the head of REC and SCEA for over 13 years, and recently announced his plans to retire in the summer of 2025. REC and SCEA have opened their search for their next shared CEO.

REC is based out of Clements, Minnesota, and SCEA is based in St. James, Minnesota. The cooperatives have shared a CEO for over 20 years, with Mr. Horman being the second such person to serve in a shared CEO role for the two coops. REC and SCEA have established a joint-board committee, who will conduct the search for the next CEO.

A more detailed release celebrating the career of Mr. Horman will be shared nearer his retirement date.

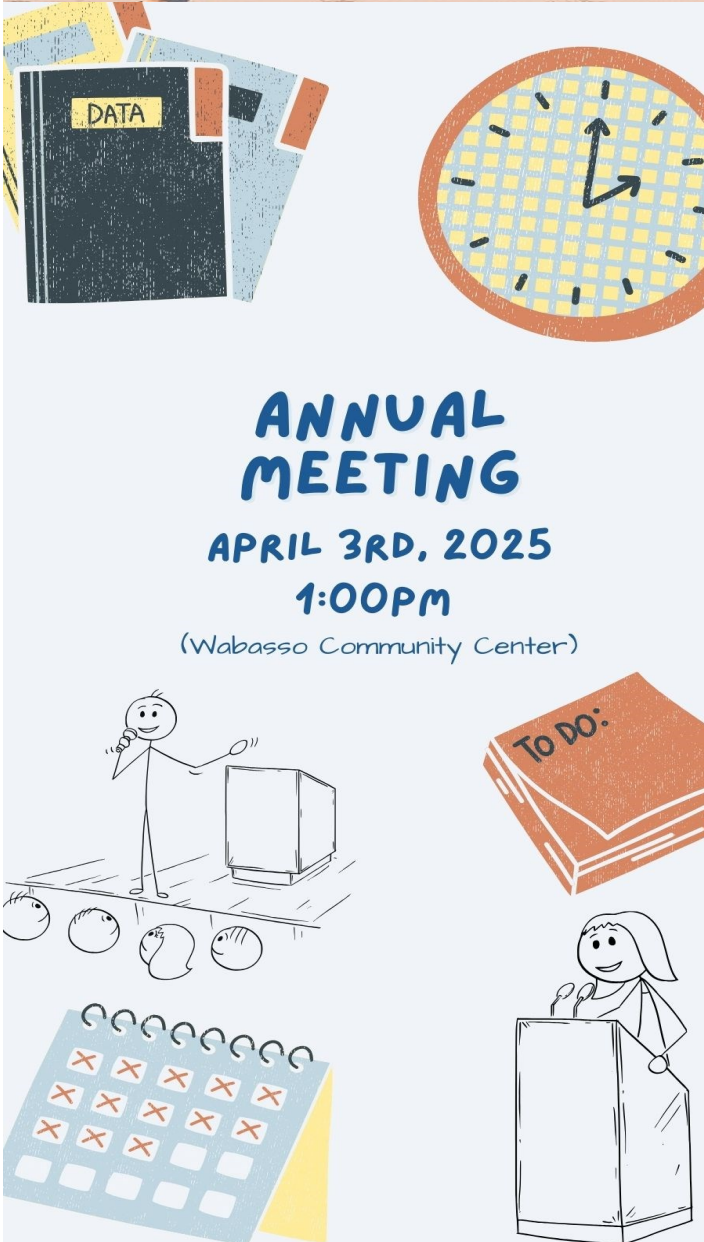


ANNUAL MEETING

APRIL 3RD, 2025

1:00PM

(Wabasso Community Center)



OFFICE CLOSED
APRIL 18TH, 2025
in observation of

Good Friday



I Hit a Power Pole or Other Electrical Equipment: Now What?

We all think it will never happen to us, but it can, and in an instant.

Drivers veer off the road and run into a power pole. Farmers sometimes make contact with a power line while driving tractors or other machinery. Dump or feed truck drivers raise or lower their bed and snag a power line.

Incidents with power lines or other utility equipment break the electrical current's usual path. This can make the ground, vehicles and other equipment electrified. "People can become dangerously close or enter electricity's path. Knowing what to do in that situation can save your life," according to Erin Hollinshead, associate director of the Energy Education Council/Safe Electricity program.

If you hit a power pole, pad-mounted transformer ("green box") or other electrical equipment, **DO NOT** get out of the vehicle or cab. Instead, **call 9-1-1** and **wait for utility crews to come** and de-energize power. Here are some examples; in all instances, call 9-1-1:

- Your tractor or car **strikes a guy wire** (guy wires are the wires staked into the ground that stabilize utility poles). Under normal conditions, the guy wire is neutral, but if the wire is weakened, pulled out of the ground or otherwise damaged, it could become energized.
- You hit a patch of ice and go off the road **and hit a utility pole**. Or you are in a car accident and **one of the vehicles strikes a power pole**. Only get out of the car if there is smoke or a fire; otherwise, stay put. If there a fire, make a clean jump or hop from your car or truck (without touching it), and hop with your feet together or shuffle keeping your feet on the ground at least 30 feet to safety. Think of the downed line sending electrical current across the ground in a ripple-like effect. Each ring of the ripple represents a different voltage. If you step from one ring to another, **this is called step potential** and it can electrocute you.
- You see an accident that involves a **downed power line**. **DO NOT** approach the scene.
- You hit a **pad-mounted transformer** or other type of **electrical box**.
- Your vehicle hits a **substation**.
- You ran off the road, hit a pole and it's dark out, but **YOU DON'T KNOW** if lines are down.

Other situations

- You get something stuck in power lines (drone or remote-control device): Do not try to retrieve it.
- You see kids climbing or sitting on pad-mounted transformers: Tell them not to sit or play on it.
- You are carrying a tall ladder or pole: Look up for power line locations and keep at least a 10-foot clearance at all times.
- You see kids climb trees that have power lines above: Warn them not to climb trees near power lines.

You are using a portable generator: Never plug it into a wall outlet. This can cause back feeding into the line and kill a line worker or neighbor.



Call our office for questions!

YOUR NEIGHBORS WILL BE JEALOUS

OUTAGE PROTECTION

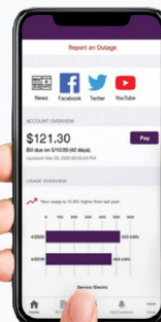


The PowerProtect™ 26kW Home Standby Generator
has been recognized as the **2024 Best Overall
Generator** by U.S. News & World Report

SMART MANAGEMENT. SMART LIFE. SMARTHUB.



- **MANAGE YOUR ACCOUNT**
- **VIEW AND PAY YOUR BILL**
- **MONITOR USAGE 24/7**
- **REPORT SERVICE ISSUES**



AVOID UTILITY SCAMS



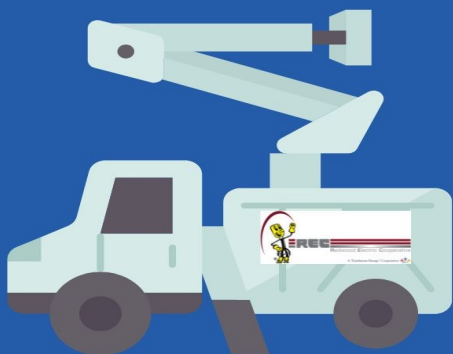
UNKNOWN CALLER

Please be careful of websites pretending to be an electric utility. Scammers often create look-alike sites to steal your personal information. Always type your utility's official web address directly into your browser instead of clicking email or text links. Watch for signs of a secure website, such as "https://" in the address bar and a padlock icon. If unsure, call your utility company using the official phone number listed on your bill to verify payment or account details. Stay vigilant to protect yourself from utility fraud.



Why is a REC truck in my yard?

Starting in March, REC line crews will be out in our service territory checking meters and doing maintenance. If you have any questions, please call our office.



Office Hours & Contact Information

Monday-Friday 7:00 AM-3:30 PM

Phone: 888-251-5100 or 507-692-2214

Email address:

office@redwoodelectric.com

Web: www.redwoodelectric.com

SmartHub: redwoodelectric.smarthub.coop

Pay By Phone: 844-905-2209

OUTAGES

(888) 251-5100

24 HOURS A DAY

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Gopher State One

Call (800) 252-1166 or 811

General Manager

Ronald Horman

Board of Directors

Dan Tauer

Emily Evans

Jill Weber VanDerWal

Dean Fultz

Michael Baune

Dick Nelson

George W. Turbes

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Redwood Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



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