



PREMA

December 2015

PLUGGED IN WITH . . .

Panhandle Rural Electric Membership Association

Inside this issue:

Cover Story	1
Scholarship	2
Scholarship	3
Christmas Tree	4
Load Mgmt	4

PLANNED POLE INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

The purpose of a planned pole inspection program is to reveal damaged poles caused from equipment, insects/rodents or poles which are in early stages of decay so that corrective action can be taken. The end result of the inspection program is the establishment of a continuing maintenance program for extending the average service life of all poles on the system.

POLE DECAY

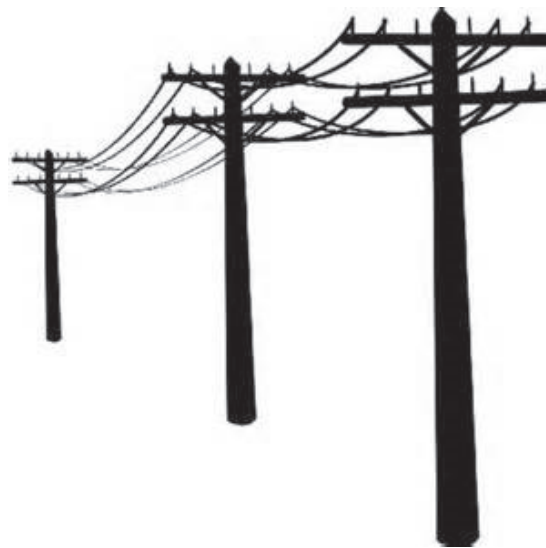
Decay of treated poles is usually a gradual deterioration caused by fungi and other low forms of plant life. Damage by insect/rodent attack (termites, ants and voles) is usually considered jointly with decay because preservative treatment of wood protects against both fungi and insects. In most cases, the decay of creosote and penta-treated poles will be just below the ground line where the conditions of moisture, temperature and air are most favorable for growth of the fungi.

INSPECTION PROCESS

The inspection process involves a visual inspection of each pole looking for mechanical damage, significant cracks, signs of insect activity or any other defect with the pole that may result in a pole

failure and/or rejection.

They will then complete a sound and bore test of the pole where they will expose the pole below the ground line, bore the pole at an angle on two different sides, determine the size of the decayed pocket below the ground line, if any, and sound the pole above ground line with a hammer looking for the decayed pocket to extend above the ground line.



GROUND LINE TREATMENT

All treated poles eventually lose resistance to decay. Ground line treatment with effective preservatives provides an economical extension of their physical life. Experience has shown that a well designed and implemented ground line inspection and

maintenance program can significantly increase the service life of many poles.

PREMA's 2015 pole inspection area will be in two different parts of our service area. The first area inspected will be east and west of HWY 61 between Arthur and Hyannis. The second area will be starting approximately 10 miles west of Hemingford and working west and north including all of PREMA's poles in Sioux County.



**Basin Electric Power Cooperative
and Subsidiaries**

**Scholarship Program
Application – Member Cooperative**

Please complete the form below. Completeness and neatness ensure your application will be evaluated appropriately.

1. Name	Home Phone () -	College Phone () -	Last 4 digits of SS #:	
2. Permanent (street) address:	(city)	(state)	(zip) Email:	
3. Mother's Name:	Father's Name:			
4. Student's parent is:	<input type="checkbox"/> Member cooperative employee <input type="checkbox"/> Member cooperative consumer			
5. Co-op System Name:				
Co-op City / State / Zip:				
6. High School name and address from which you graduated or will graduate this spring:				
7. ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS, OR HONORS	_____ _____ _____			
Sending a resume' does not replace any part of this application. If space provided in any section is inadequate, you may continue on additional sheets. Attachments must follow the same format. DO NOT repeat information already reported on the application form. Your name, address, and name of this scholarship program should be included on all attachments.				
8. WORK EXPERIENCE	Describe your work experience (e.g. food server, babysitting, lawn mowing, and office work). Indicate dates of employment for each job and approximate number of hours worked each week.			
	Employer/Position	From-Mo/Yr	To-Mo/Yr	Hours per Week
9. GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS	Write a brief statement or summary of your plans as they relate to your educational and career objectives and long-term goals. _____ _____ _____			
10. GPA _____ ACT: English _____ Math _____ Reading _____ Science _____ Comp _____ SAT I: Verbal _____ Math _____ High school seniors must include a transcript and complete this section. Students currently or previously entered in college or vocational-tech school must include college transcript of grades. Completion of ACT and/or SAT scores is not necessary.				
11. Name and address of accredited school you plan to attend in the fall of the year: _____ City _____ State _____ _____ City _____ State _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 4-yr College or University <input type="checkbox"/> 2-yr Community or Junior College <input type="checkbox"/> Vocational-Technical School				
12. What will your class status be in the fall of the year? <input type="checkbox"/> Freshman <input type="checkbox"/> Sophomore <input type="checkbox"/> Junior <input type="checkbox"/> Senior				
13. Major course of study:		Minors:		
14. ESSAY QUESTION (Required)	As part of the application, you are required to compose and submit an essay. The essay should be no more than one page, typed with a font size no smaller than 12 points, and double spaced on 8½ x 11 paper. Include your name on the top right hand corner of the essay. Student Essay Topic: Pick one of the four values of innovation, accountability, integrity and commitment to community and describe how you see this value in action at your local cooperative.			
Student signature:			Date:	

APPLICANT APPRAISAL (REQUIRED)	To the Applicant: This section is required and must be completed in the format provided. If incomplete, your application will not be evaluated. The section is to be completed by a high school or college counselor or advisor, an instructor, or a work supervisor who knows you well.			
	To the Adult Appraiser: You have been asked to provide information in support of this application. Please give immediate and serious attention to the following statements. When complete, please return to applicant. If you prefer, photocopy this section and return to applicant in a sealed envelope. A letter of recommendation does not replace this section.			
The applicant's choice of a post secondary educational program is	<input type="checkbox"/> extremely appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/> very appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/> moderately appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/> inappropriate
The applicant's achievements reflect his/her ability	<input type="checkbox"/> extremely well	<input type="checkbox"/> very well	<input type="checkbox"/> moderately well	<input type="checkbox"/> not well
The applicant's ability to set realistic and attainable goals is	<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> poor
The quality of the applicant's commitment to school and/or community is	<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> poor
The applicant is able to seek, find, and use learning resources	<input type="checkbox"/> extremely well	<input type="checkbox"/> very well	<input type="checkbox"/> moderately well	<input type="checkbox"/> not well
The applicant demonstrates curiosity and initiative	<input type="checkbox"/> extremely well	<input type="checkbox"/> very well	<input type="checkbox"/> moderately well	<input type="checkbox"/> not well
The applicant demonstrates good problem-solving skills, follows through, and completes tasks	<input type="checkbox"/> extremely well	<input type="checkbox"/> very well	<input type="checkbox"/> moderately well	<input type="checkbox"/> not well
The applicant's respect for self and others is	<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> poor
Comments _____				

Appraiser's Name _____ Title _____ Telephone () _____				
Signature _____ Organization _____ Date _____				

Scholarship Submittal Requirements

- The student is responsible for submitting all materials on time. Incomplete applications will not be evaluated.
- 1. Complete this application (attach additional sheets if necessary). Your name and address should be on all attachments.
 - 2. Recent academic transcript whether it be from a high school, college, university, or trade school.
CURRENT COLLEGE FRESHMAN - Judges will screen and require more than one semester or quarter of grades. If this applies to you, submit your high school transcript.
 - 3. Copy of your college entrance examination (ACT and/or SAT) scores. (Only college Freshmen)
 - 4. Essay – **Pick one of the four values of innovation, accountability, integrity and commitment to community and describe how you see this value in action at your local cooperative.**
 - 5. Applicant Appraisal.
 - 6. Mail your complete application packet as directed below.

Applications must be received by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 12, 2016.
Please submit all applications to:
PREMA
P.O. Box 677
Alliance, NE 69301

All scholarship entries are confidential and will only be viewed by PREMA, Chadron State College or the Basin Electric Power Cooperative scholarship committees. There are four scholarships available for qualified college sophomore, junior, senior or graduate students. Three scholarships are available to incoming college freshmen, and there is one scholarship available to a student planning to attend the WNCC Powerline Training School.
 Repeat (previous 2 years) winners will only be considered if there are not enough non-repeat winners.



Choose a Christmas tree that isn't already shedding

You'll know it's time to take your Christmas tree down when it starts dropping its needles. So if you're shopping for a fresh tree now, don't buy one that's already losing its greenery.

A sure sign that you're buying a tree that will dry out quickly and shed all over the floor: When you shake it at the tree lot, tons of needles fall to the ground.

Instead, buy a tree whose needles are pliable. Run a gloved hand over a few of the branches. If the needles don't come loose and fall off, that tree will do well in your living room.

Before you leave the lot, ask the attendant to chop an inch or so off the bottom of the trunk, and immediately dunk the tree in water. After you set the tree up in your home, fill its water container every day, with water only.

Skip the bleach, aspirin, soda, syrup or sugar that you've heard will prolong your tree's life: They won't. Adding acidity to the water doesn't help the tree take in moisture. Sugar acts as a nutrient; in fact, the tree doesn't need food. It just needs water. And sugar can cause bacteria to grow in the water and make it smell bad. And while some believe bleach may help prevent bacteria like mold, it's more likely to kill the plant tissue with its hydrochloric acid.

Notes From Load Management



PREMA's Load Management program will see changes for the 2016 Irrigation Season. The change in the rate structure from Tri-State, PREMA's power supplier, influences how Load Management is operated. The 2016 Load Management program resembles what was offered from 2007 through the 2012 season. The control months will be May through September. Control will only occur in the "on peak" hours of 12 Noon through 10 PM. There will be no control periods on Sundays and Holidays. We will offer an **Alternating** and an **Everyday** option. Regardless of control periods, participants in Load Management will be able to run 14 hours every day and all day Sunday.

Other changes will be to the equipment that we use to shut off irrigation accounts. We have ordered new Load Control switches that will be communicated with through the TWACS system. The TWACS system allows us to read meters remotely and provides valuable information about the system. The new switches will be able to verify whether switches are working and if usage has been shut off when control is active. Although the previous switches worked well, we were unable to verify if the switches were working. This means we will no longer have to inspect switches annually.



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