

Electric Line Newsletter

84TH CWEC ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD APRIL 19

Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative (CWECC) will return to an in-person format for its 84th annual meeting, scheduled to be held Tuesday, April 19, 2022. The meeting will be held at Wittenberg-Biramwood High School.

Registration begins at 5:15 p.m. A light snack and refreshments will be served until the start of the meeting at 6 p.m.

President & CEO Mike Wade and Board Chairman Tom Smith will keynote the meeting's business session. During the business session, members will have the opportunity to hear how their co-op is faring financially, learn details about various services offered by their member-owned power supplier, and receive updates on state and federal regulatory issues of importance to electric co-ops. An election of two board positions will be held.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

CWEC members who live in District 2 and District 3 have the opportunity to vote in director elections for their respective districts.

Current Director Lee Lehrer is running for reelection and is unopposed in District 2.

The seat to represent District 3 is currently vacant. Allen Zander and Rhonda Hollfelder are facing each other in the election to fill the District 3 seat.

Information on how to cast a ballot, as well as the official ballots, were mailed to CWEC members in District 2 and District 3 in late March.

For information about the candidates, visit: <https://www.cwecoop.com/meet-2022-director-candidates>

DOOR PRIZES

Members who attend the in-person Annual Meeting will receive a \$20 bill credit, as well as a gift. Members who bring the address slip from the front cover of the April issue of *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News* will have the chance to win a \$50 energy credit. In addition to many door prizes, one lucky member will be drawn as the winner of a grand prize consisting of an electric grill. For all of the drawings, winners need to be present.

Join CWEC on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, for our 84th Annual Meeting. We hope to see you on April 19.

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Office Hours: Monday thru
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THE POWER BEHIND YOUR POWER

Lineworker Appreciation Day - April 11

You've likely noticed Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative's (CWECC) crews out and about, working on power lines and other electrical equipment in our community. It's no secret that a lineworker's job is tough—but it's a job that's essential and must be done, often in challenging conditions. This month, as we celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 11, we share some interesting facts about electric lineworkers.

The work can be heavy, in more ways than one. Did you know the equipment and tools that a lineworker carries while climbing a utility pole can weigh up to 50 pounds? That's the same as carrying six gallons of water. Speaking of utility poles, lineworkers are required to climb poles ranging anywhere from 30 to 120 feet tall. Needless to say, if you have a fear of heights, this likely isn't the career path for you.

Lineworkers must be committed to their career—because it's not just a job, it's a lifestyle. The long hours and ever-present danger can truly take a toll. In fact, being a lineworker is listed in the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S.

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(L-R) Mack Yarbrough, 8 years with CWECC, Operations Crew Leader; Nate Singer, 3 years, Apprentice Lineman; John Bestul, 12 years, Service Foreman; Jarret Brow, 1 year, Journeyman Lineman; Chris Tuszke, 30 years, Lineman; Josh Wick, 3 years, Apprentice Lineman; Wyatt Phillips, 1 year, Journeyman Lineman.

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Lineworkers often work non-traditional hours, outdoors in difficult conditions. The job requires technical skills, years of training and hands-on learning. Did you know that to become a journeyman lineworker can take more than 7,000 hours of training (or about four years)? That's because working with high-voltage equipment requires specialized skills, experience and an ongoing mental toughness. Shortcuts are not an option, and there is no room for error in this line of work.

Despite the many challenges, CWEC's lineworkers are committed to powering our local community. During severe weather events that bring major power outages, lineworkers are among the first ones called. They must be ready to leave the comfort of their home and families unexpectedly, and they don't return until the job is done. That's why the lineworker's family is also dedicated to service. They understand the importance of the job to the community.

If you see roadside crews,
please slow down and move
over when possible.



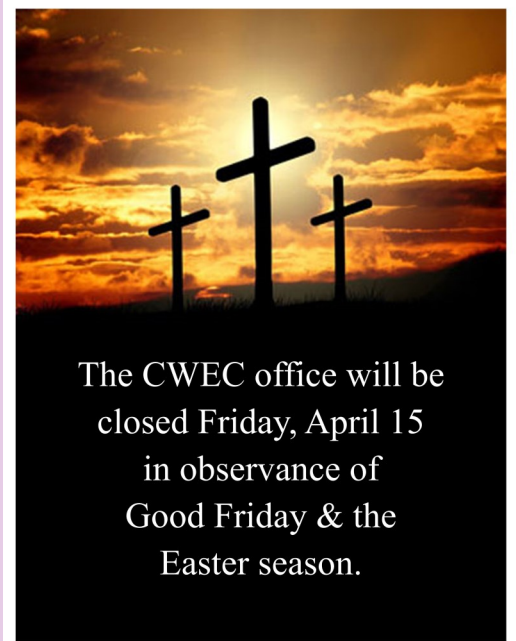
**Work Zone
Awareness
Week:
April 11-15**



Nationwide, there are approximately 120,000 electric lineworkers. CWEC has seven lineworkers who are responsible for keeping power flowing 24/7, 365 days a year. To do this, they maintain 1,443 miles of power lines across four counties. In addition to the highly visible tasks lineworkers perform, their job today goes far beyond climbing utility poles to repair a wire. Today's lineworkers are information experts who can pinpoint power outages from miles away. Line crews now use laptops, tablets, drones and other technologies to map outages, survey damage and troubleshoot problems.

Being a lineworker may not seem like a glamorous job, but it is absolutely essential to the life of our community. Without the exceptional dedication and commitment of these hardworking men and women, we simply would not have the reliable electricity that we need for everyday life.

So, the next time you see a lineworker, please thank them for the work they do to keep power flowing, regardless of the time of day or weather conditions. After all, lineworkers are the power behind your power. Please join us as we recognize them on April 11, and follow "#ThankALineworker" on social media to see how others are recognizing lineworkers.



The CWEC office will be
closed Friday, April 15
in observance of
Good Friday & the
Easter season.