Make the Roads Safe

MESSAGE FROM
GENERAL MANAGER CLINT GARDNER

SAFETY IS, WAS AND ALWAYS WILL BE A PRIORITY AT COLEMAN County Electric Cooperative. This includes the safety of you, our members, as well as that of our employees.

We are proud of our safety record and the measures that we put in place to safeguard those who work to bring you a steady supply of electricity. That especially goes for our lineworkers and support crews, who have some of the most dangerous jobs around.

Our constant focus on safety includes meetings and classes in which employees receive training in staying safe around dangerous equipment and in hazardous situations. Our co-op’s strategic plan always contains a strong safety component designed to keep our workers and the public out of harm’s way.

Working around electricity, often far above the ground and in all weather conditions, is inherently dangerous. But not all the dangers our employees face come from the weather, climbing or power lines. If you are not paying attention when you are behind the wheel, the danger might come from you.

Sometimes the job of building a line or restoring power places our crews at the sides of narrow roads that run through our service territory. It’s in these situations that you can help keep your electric cooperative workers safe.

If you see utility vehicles and line crews working, give them and the road ahead all of your attention.

Slow down and, if it is safe, move over to give crews as much space as possible. Respect traffic cones, flashing lights and other signals. They could be the only thing between your car and workers or equipment.

With your cooperation, the dangers of line work don’t have to be increased by traffic. There is much our crews can do to enhance their safety, but there’s not much protection from a distracted driver.

Please be careful, be aware, slow down and help protect Coleman County EC’s most valuable asset: our people.

WHAT TO DO IF...

You Encounter a Downed Power Line

EVEN IF EVERY HOME IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD LOSES ELECTRICITY DURING A STORM, a power line hanging loose could very well be “live” and electrocute you if you touch it.

Just because the electricity is out doesn’t mean power lines are dead. So if you see one, follow these tips to stay safe:

➤ Don’t touch a power line with your hand, body, a stick, a broom—not with anything. Stay as far away from it as possible.

➤ Call 911 and your electric cooperative.

➤ If your car or another person is touching a downed line, don’t touch your car or that person. The power could flow through them and into you.

➤ Don’t drive over a downed wire.

➤ If a line falls on your car while you’re in it, stay inside. The ground around your car could be energized, and if you touch it, you could be electrocuted. Warn others to stay away and call 911 for help.

➤ Teach children about the dangers of fallen power lines.
Students: Apply Now!

Youth Tour deadline is February 9


February 9 is the deadline to enter CCEC’s contest for a chance to win a ticket for this adventure, which has been called the trip of a lifetime.

Youth Tour is an action-packed trip to the U.S. capital with more than 145 of your peers and chaperones from across Texas. You’ll visit the Washington National Cathedral, Arlington National Cemetery, Mount Vernon, Smithsonian Institution, memorials and more. Activities include learning about rural electrification, seeing a performance at the Kennedy Center, going on a boat cruise with dinner and dancing, and meeting elected officials.

You could be part of this legacy shared by more than 3,800 past Texas Youth Tour students who have participated since 1965. To apply, submit a speech to be judged by Coleman County EC. This year’s contest topic is: What would life be without electricity?

Eligible entrants must:

- Be in 10th, 11th or 12th grade;
- Be a dependent of a CCEC member with permanent resident status in the coop’s service area; and
- Submit a speech on the topic: What would life be without electricity?

Applications must arrive at CCEC by February 9. They can be submitted by mail or drop-off.

For more information about Youth Tour, visit TexasYouthTour.com or contact CoriAnn Carrillo at coriann@colemanelectric.org or (325) 625-2128.