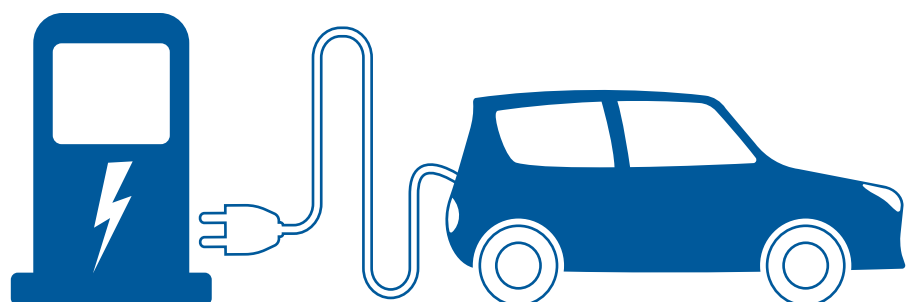
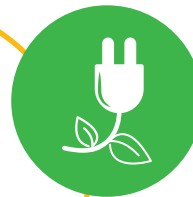
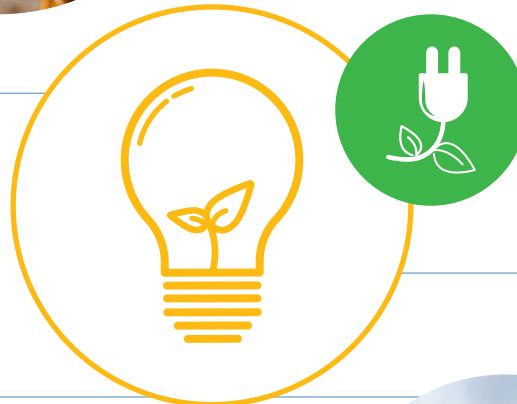
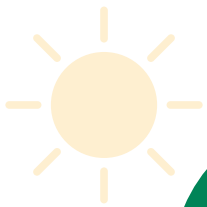


JANUARY 2022

# CIRCUITS

FOR DAKOTA ELECTRIC MEMBERS



## CONTACT US

### Member Service & Drive-Up Window

7 a.m. – 7 p.m. Monday – Friday  
651-463-6212 or 1-800-874-3409  
Minnesota Relay Service 711

### Lobby Temporarily Closed

4300 220th Street West  
Farmington, MN 55024

### 24-Hour Outage & Emergency Service

651-463-6201 or 1-800-430-9722

### Underground Cable Locations

Gopher State One Call 811 or  
651-454-0002 or 1-800-252-1166  
<http://www.gopherstateonecall.org/>

### Tree Trimming & Street Lights

651-463-6287

*Dakota Electric is an equal opportunity/  
affirmative action employer*

### Dakotaelectric.com

[customerservice@dakotaelectric.com](mailto:customerservice@dakotaelectric.com)

*Dakota Electric Association® and Dakota Electric®  
are registered service marks of the cooperative.*

*All programs and rebates are subject to change  
without notice. Funds are limited and available  
on a first-come, first-served basis.*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### DISTRICT 1

John (Jack) DeYoe  
David Jones  
Gerald F. Pittman | *Chair*

### DISTRICT 2

Bill Middlecamp | *Treasurer*  
Clay Van De Bogart | *GRE Director*  
Vacant Seat

### DISTRICT 3

Kenneth H. Danner | *Secretary*  
William F. Holton  
Margaret D. Schreiner | *GRE Director*

### DISTRICT 4

Paul Bakken | *Vice Chair*  
Judy H. Kimmes  
Stacy Miller | *MREA Director*

## LOOKING AHEAD



### What to Expect in 2022

Greg Miller, President & CEO

*It is a new year, which means new opportunities, challenges and growth. We look forward to what is to come in 2022.*

### GENERAL UPDATE

At the December board meeting, our board reviewed and approved the 2022 budget and construction work plan. We continue to see tremendous growth in residential and commercial members even with supply chain challenges and elevated prices facing developers. Dakota Electric will not file a rate case in 2022.

### NEW PROGRAMS

We are looking forward to creating new programs around the recently enacted Energy Conservation and Optimization (ECO) Act passed by the Minnesota legislature in May of 2021. Energy efficiency program expansion, electric vehicles and battery storage will be an even bigger part of our near future. Key stakeholders will provide guidance by late March and Dakota Electric will work with Great River Energy and other co-ops throughout 2022 to develop and implement new programs. Exciting times are ahead for electric end-uses and Dakota Electric wants to help members take advantage of these uses.

### GREAT RIVER ENERGY UPDATE

Dakota Electric's board of directors approved a new 25-year wholesale power wind contract in southwest Minnesota on the Buffalo Ridge for 100 megawatts (MW). After much discussion, an option to take an additional 68 MW from Coal Creek Station did not pass at the December board meeting. Dakota Electric is one of 28 cooperatives who voted on the proposed power purchase agreements. Regardless of the outcome of the Coal Creek Station purchase option, Great River Energy's contract to purchase output from Coal Creek Station expires in 2030.

For more information on our power supplier Great River Energy, please visit [www.dakotaelectric.com](http://www.dakotaelectric.com) and click on the "Your Power Supply" scrolling banner.

### THANK YOU

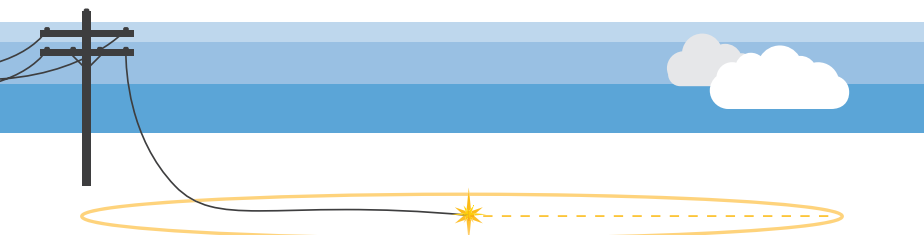
Our members and hardworking employees make the communities we serve a better place. Thank you for all we have accomplished together in 2021. We look forward to another great year in 2022!



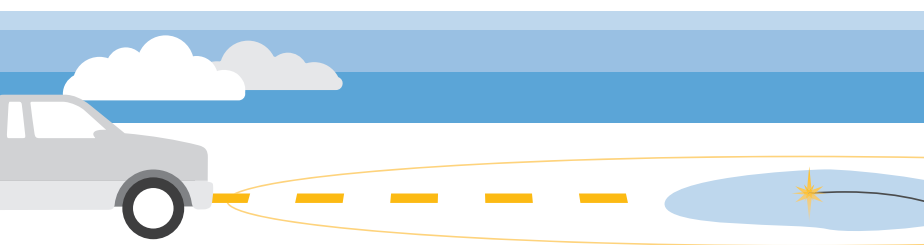
# SAFETY GUIDE

## Downed and Dangerous

If you see a downed power line, always assume it is energized and dangerous. Avoid going near it, getting anything in contact with it and call our 24-hour outage line at 651-463-6201.



Downed power lines can energize the ground up to 35 feet away — so keep your distance.



Never drive over a downed line or through water that is touching the line.



If you see a downed line, notify the local authorities immediately.



Never try to move a downed power line, even if you think the line is deenergized or if you're using a non-conductive item — this will not prevent injury or death!

*\*Please note, this is not a comprehensive safety checklist. If you have ongoing electrical or wiring issues, please call a licensed electrician.*

Source: ESFI.org

## Electrical Safety Checklist\*

Nearly half of all home fires occur during winter months. Take a few minutes to identify and correct any potential electrical hazards to ensure the safety of you and your home.

### SWITCHES & OUTLETS

**Are any switches or outlets warm to the touch?** YES ☐ NO ☐

Warm switches or outlets indicate unsafe wiring conditions.

**Are any switches or outlets discolored?** YES ☐ NO ☐

Discoloration indicates dangerous heat buildup at these connections.

**Do plugs fit snugly into outlets?** YES ☐ NO ☐

Loose fitting plugs can cause overheating and fires.

### CORDS

**Are any cords cracked, frayed or damaged?** YES ☐ NO ☐

Damaged cords can expose wires causing shock or fire.

**Are any cords pinched by furniture or windows or attached to anything with staples or nails?** YES ☐ NO ☐

Pinching and/or stapling cords can damage the insulation causing shock or fire.

**Do you use extension cords on a permanent basis?** YES ☐ NO ☐

Extension cords should only be used temporarily.

### ELECTRICAL PANEL

**Do you have recurring tripped circuit breakers or blown fuses?** YES ☐ NO ☐

If yes, this could indicate you're exceeding a safe level of electrical currents.

**Do you have arc fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs)?** YES ☐ NO ☐

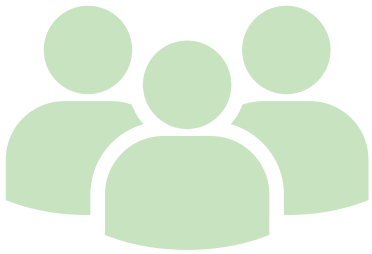
AFCIs provide greater fire protection. Check your circuit breakers for the AFCI label.

# 2021

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## YEAR IN REVIEW

Dakota Electric members and employees help make our community a better place. Check out the highlights of what we have accomplished together in 2021. Thank you so much for another great year!



**112K+**

MEMBERS

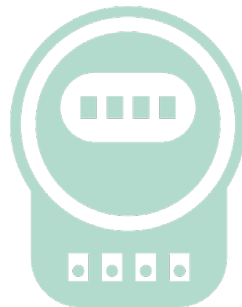
**THANK  
YOU!!**

FOR BEING A  
MEMBER



**\$78,500**

DONATED TO THE COMMUNITY



**110,000+**

NEW METERS  
INSTALLED

**115K+**

CALLS TAKEN  
BY MEMBER  
SERVICES



# OVER 1,200 NEW SERVICES

DESIGNED AND BUILT



**100 MILES**  
OF TREE TRIMMING  
AND REMOVAL



**EST \$6.1M**  
CAPITAL CREDITS  
RETURNED



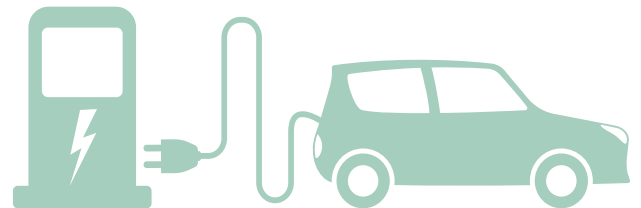
**54,256**  
CHECKS MAILED  
TO MEMBERS

**1.855B**

KWH  
SALES



**170+**



MEMBERS ADDED TO OUR  
ELECTRIC VEHICLE PROGRAMS



**\$17M+**  
SAVED BY LOAD  
MANAGEMENT  
PROGRAMS



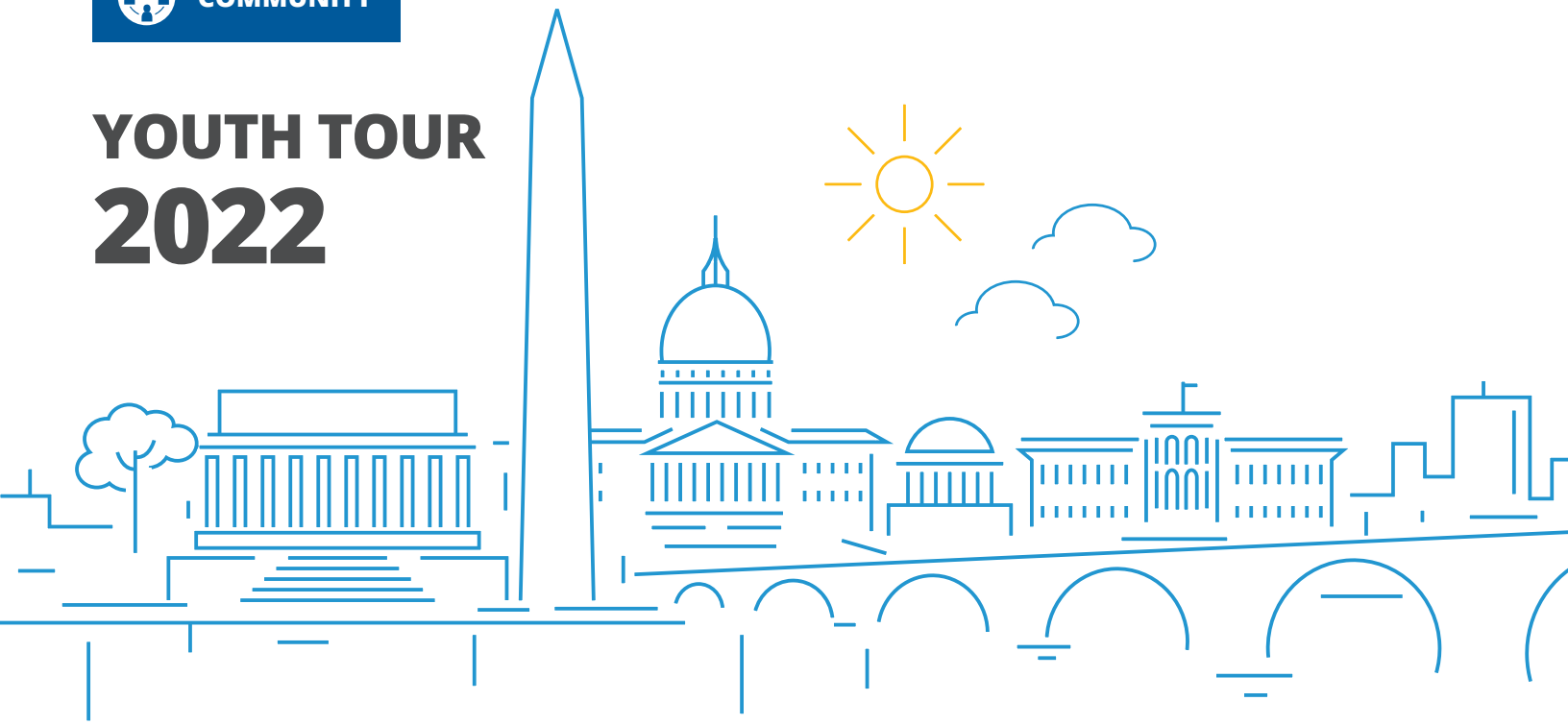
**1 HOUR**  
AVERAGE  
OUTAGE  
DURATION  
PER MEMBER

*2021 numbers shown are estimated.*





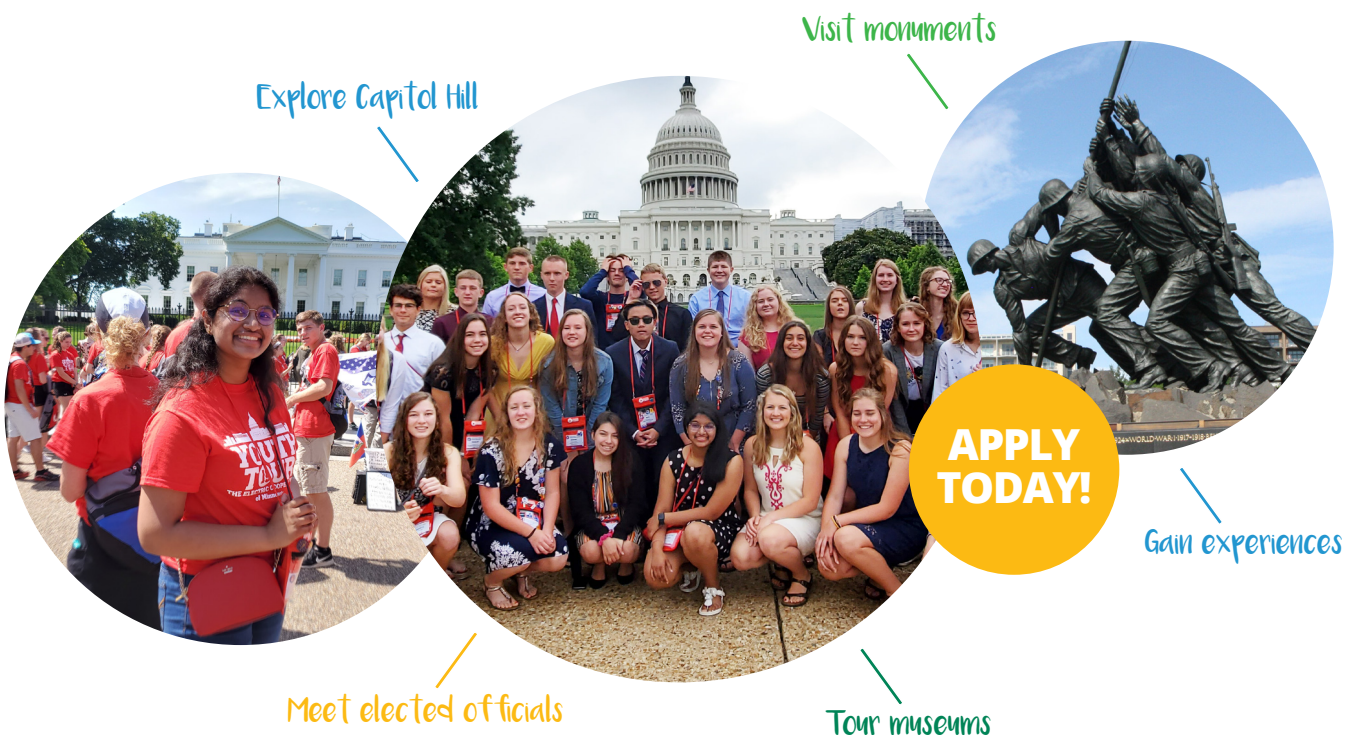
# YOUTH TOUR 2022



Dakota Electric will send five local high school sophomores, juniors and seniors on an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., June 14-19 as part of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's (NRECA) Youth Tour.

Sponsored by the nation's electric cooperatives since 1958, the NRECA Youth Tour is designed to build leadership skills while educating young people about the cooperative business model and American history and government.

Students can apply online at [www.dakotaelectric.com](http://www.dakotaelectric.com) > **community** > **education programs** or request an application from their guidance counselor. The application deadline is Feb. 18. Students must be available for an interview on March 10 or 15. Applicant's household must be a member of Dakota Electric. Tell your family, friends and neighbors!





## ENERGY ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

For energy assistance resources visit [www.dakotaelectric.com/member-services/billing-payment/financial-assistance](http://www.dakotaelectric.com/member-services/billing-payment/financial-assistance). Contact us Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at 651-463-6212 or 1-800-874-3409, or email [customerservice@dakotaelectric.com](mailto:customerservice@dakotaelectric.com).



## BENEFICIAL ELECTRIFICATION

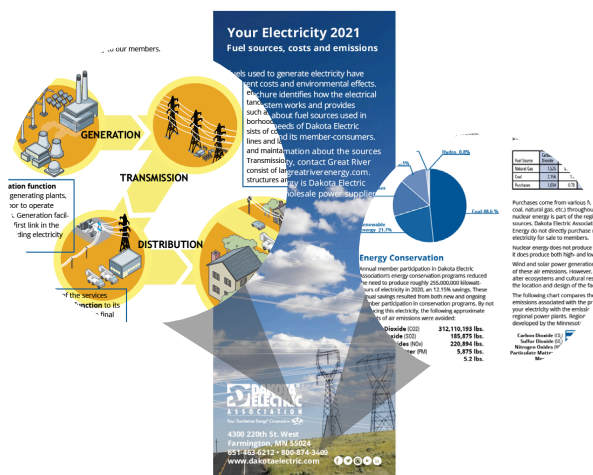
Beneficial electrification supports the use of more all-electric appliances and equipment, such as electric heat pumps and electric vehicles, and provides users with clean and efficient products.

Dakota Electric's electric vehicle charging programs are the type of innovative, beneficial electrification solution the ECO Act aims to unlock across the state. To learn more, contact the Energy Experts at 651-463-6243 or email [energyservices@dakotaelectric.com](mailto:energyservices@dakotaelectric.com).



## YOUR ELECTRICITY BROCHURE

The most recent information on how the electric generation, transmission and distribution systems work, plus the sources, costs and emissions of fuels used in meeting the needs of Dakota Electric's members, is available by visiting [www.dakotaelectric.com/your-power-supply](http://www.dakotaelectric.com/your-power-supply). You may also request a copy of the brochure be mailed to you by calling 651-463-6212.



## NOTICE TO COGENERATORS

In compliance with Minnesota rules relating to cogeneration and small power production, Chapter 7835, Dakota Electric Association is required to interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers that satisfy the conditions of a qualifying facility.

Dakota Electric will provide free information to all interested members regarding rates and interconnection requirements. An interconnection application is required and subject to approval from the cooperative before a qualifying facility interconnects and operates in parallel with the cooperative's distribution system.

Any disputes over interconnections, sales and purchases are subject to resolution by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

4300 220th Street West  
Farmington, MN 55024

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Board Meeting**  
Jan. 27, 8:30 a.m.

Find board meeting agendas and  
approved meeting minutes at  
[www.dakotaelectric.com/about-us/  
monthly-meetings](http://www.dakotaelectric.com/about-us/monthly-meetings).



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U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
DAKOTA ELECTRIC  
ASSOCIATION

## CONNECT WITH US!



# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

# 2022

RAIN OR SHINE, DAY OR NIGHT,  
WE'RE HERE FOR YOU — 24/7, YEAR-ROUND.

24-HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE | LOCAL: 651-463-6201 | TOLL-FREE: 1-800-430-9722

## inside CIRCUITS

JANUARY 2022



**P.4**  
2021 YEAR  
IN REVIEW



**P.1**  
YOU  
TO

