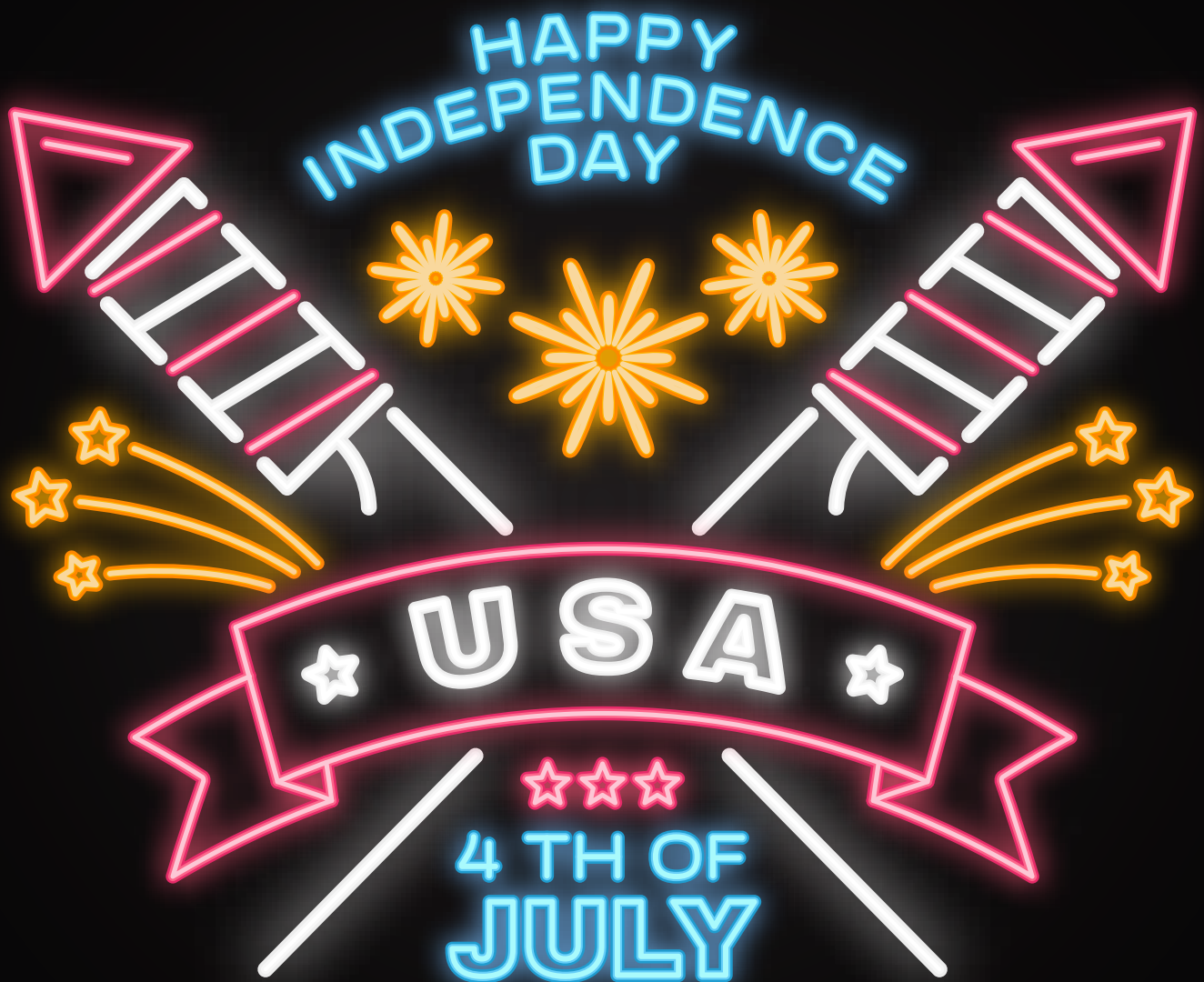


JULY 2023

CIRCUITS

FOR DAKOTA ELECTRIC MEMBERS



CAREERS

BE A PART OF OUR ENERGY

www.dakotaelectric.com/careers
HResources@dakotaelectric.com
651-463-6301

CONTACT US

Member Service & Drive-Up Window

7 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Monday – Friday
651-463-6212 or 1-800-874-3409
Minnesota Relay Service 711
customerservice@dakotaelectric.com

Lobby - 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

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
www.gopherstateonecall.org

Tree Trimming & Street Lights

651-463-6287

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

*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.*

www.dakotaelectric.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DISTRICT 1

John (Jack) DeYoe | *MREA Director*
David Jones
Gerald F. Pittman | *Treasurer*

DISTRICT 2

Bill Middlecamp
Clay Van De Bogart | *GRE Director | Vice Chair*
Terry Donnelly | *Secretary*

DISTRICT 3

Kenneth H. Danner
Margaret D. Schreiner | *GRE Director*

DISTRICT 4

Paul Bakken | *Chair*
Stacy Miller
Jenny Hoeft

CIRCUITS | JULY 2023

CEO MESSAGE

THREE MONTHS IN



Ryan Hentges

As the President & CEO of Dakota Electric, I consider myself incredibly fortunate to be a part of this dynamic organization. Since joining, I have had the privilege of engaging with the wonderful individuals that make up our community. Whether it was at various events or during interactions within our team, each encounter has reaffirmed the strength and vitality of the Dakota Electric family.

At Dakota Electric, we understand that our industry is constantly evolving. To meet the changing needs of our members and remain true to our core values, our dedicated staff is focused on implementing our strategic plan. This plan, approved by the Board in February, serves as our compass, guiding us towards success and enabling us to navigate the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

As we move forward, we have identified several key priorities that will shape our efforts. First and foremost, **safety** remains our utmost concern. We are committed to ensuring the well-being of our employees, members and the community as a whole. We also recognize that our success is driven by the talented individuals who comprise our team. By investing in our **people**, we strengthen our organization and foster a culture of excellence.

Financial stewardship is another area of great importance to us. We are dedicated to managing our resources responsibly, ensuring that we deliver value to our members while maintaining a financially sustainable cooperative. Additionally, we recognize the significance of building **resiliency** in the face of changing circumstances and ensuring the reliability of our services.

Energy optimization is a key focus for Dakota Electric, as we strive to leverage new technologies and innovative solutions to enhance efficiency and environmental sustainability. Our commitment to **member experience** remains unwavering, and we continuously seek ways to improve the quality of service we provide. Lastly, we embrace **innovation** as a driving force behind progress, allowing us to stay at the forefront of the industry and better serve our members.

In the coming months, we will delve deeper into each of these areas and keep you informed about specific initiatives we are undertaking to better serve you. Until then, enjoy your summer, and thank you for being a member-owner of Dakota Electric.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

OUTSIDE THE HOME



POWER LINES

- Keep kites, drones and other flying objects away from power lines.
- Never climb trees, poles or towers that are contacting power lines.
- When using a ladder, be aware of overhead power lines.

PATIOS

- Install weatherproof boxes or covers on outdoor outlets.
- Make sure all lighting is designed for outdoor use.
- Throw out damaged extension cords — do not try to repair them.

POOLS

- Keep electric radios, appliances and wiring for outdoor lighting away from swimming pools.
- Never touch an electric device when in a pool.
- Have your pool/spa wiring inspected annually.

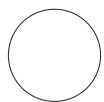
KNOW WHAT'S BELOW

It's finally summer in Minnesota! People are out enjoying the weather and may even be getting some yard projects done. Whether you're planting a tree or building a deck, always call 811 before you dig — it's the law. Underground utility lines can only be inches below the surface and be ruptured with a shovel or other household tools. Hitting a line could cause an outage, property damage or the worst-case scenario — an explosion.

To dig safely — and legally in Minnesota — you need to do three things:

- Call 811 at least two business days before you dig.
- Mark your yard (in white) so the locator knows where you're digging and can mark the utilities in your yard appropriately.
- Respect the locate marks and hand-dig carefully around them.

Utility locators follow the uniform color codes mandated by the American Public Works Association (APWA) for locate marks.



**PROPOSED
CONSTRUCTION**



**TELEPHONE &
CABLE TV**



**GAS, OIL,
STEAM**



ELECTRIC



**SEWERS & DRAIN
LINES**



WATER



**TEMPORARY
SURVEY
MARKINGS**



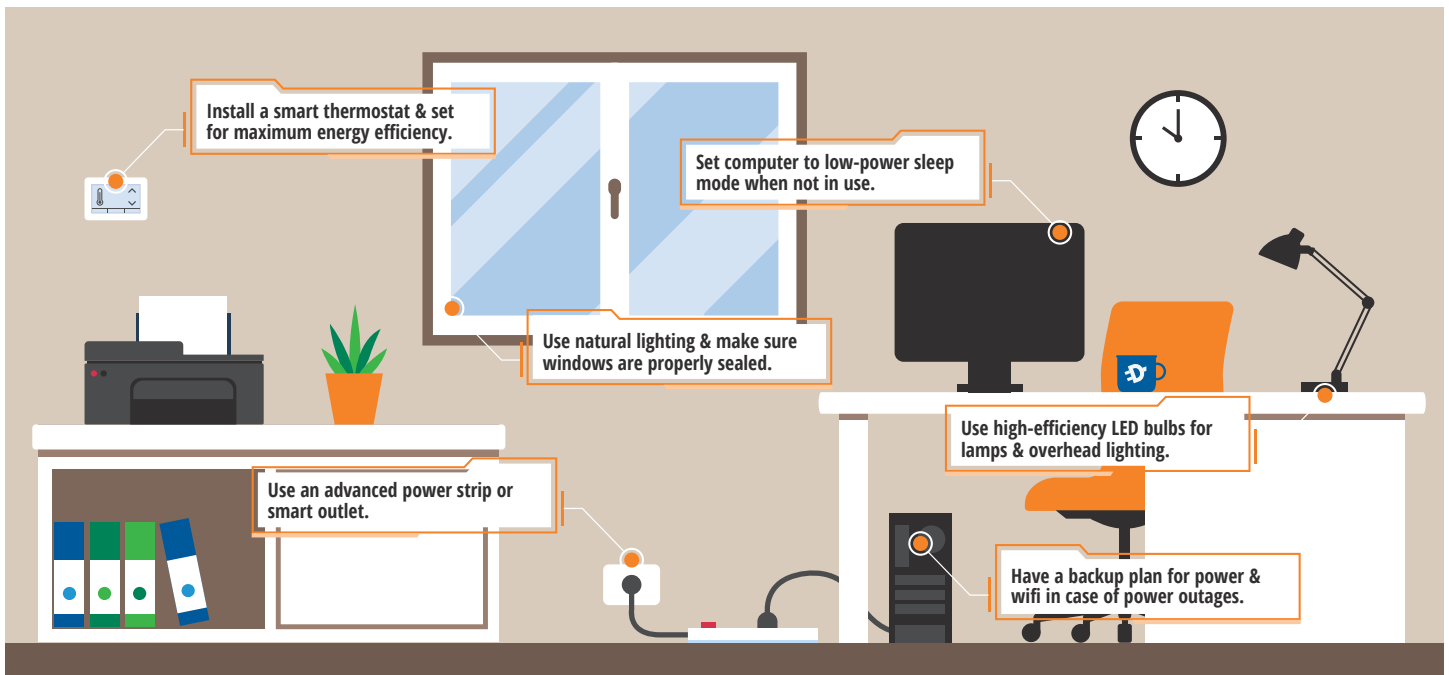
**RECLAIMED
WATER**



CALL BEFORE YOU DIG.

ENERGY SAVING TIPS

FOR THE HOME OFFICE



SPOT AND STOP SCAMS

Today's scammers are sneaky and sophisticated — targeting potential victims by phone, online and in-person. Scammers are also known to seek out vulnerable groups, including small businesses, senior citizens, non-English speakers and people living in low-income communities. By knowing what you can expect from Dakota Electric, you'll be better prepared to spot and stop a scam.



DAKOTA ELECTRIC WILL:

- Help you make payment arrangements for past due accounts. If no payment agreement is reached, service may be disconnected.
- Drive a Dakota Electric vehicle, wear company clothing and carry Dakota Electric identification.
- Allow you to verify our identity. Ask to see a Dakota Electric photo ID and have the person wait outside while you call us at 651-463-6212 to verify your account status.



DAKOTA ELECTRIC WON'T:

- Demand immediate payments by prepaid credit or debit cards.
- Call claiming you have overpaid your utility bill, and ask you to provide personal bank account information or a credit card number to facilitate a refund.
- Call asking for social security numbers, credit card or banking information to avoid disconnection.
- Disconnect your service outside of our office hours: 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Our Member Service Representatives are ready to work with you to avoid disconnection. Call 651-463-6212.

COMMUNITY

2023 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

More than 100 area high school students received scholarships this spring for their post-secondary education from Dakota Electric Association. Other students receiving part of the \$160,000 in unclaimed capital credits this year are students at Inver Hills Community College and Dakota County Technical College, who will receive their scholarships in the fall. Dakota Electric has donated over \$2 million from unclaimed capital credits since 1990 to help local students reach their goals through post-secondary education.

Students from the following high schools received scholarships: Apple Valley, Burnsville, Cannon Falls, Eagan, Eastview, Farmington, Hastings, Lakeville North, Lakeville South, Northfield, Randolph, Red Wing, Rosemount, Simley and Two Rivers.



NOTICES

2023 ELECTRICITY BROCHURE AVAILABLE

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/member-services/member-resources.



EV RIDE & DRIVE RECAP

Dakota Electric held its annual Electric Vehicle (EV) Ride & Drive Event at Buck Hill in Burnsville on Tuesday, May 23. Over 250 members came out to test drive EVs from Volvo, Volkswagen, Tesla, Hyundai, Mercedes and Polestar.

Members were also able to look at EVs on display, ride electric bikes and enjoy a grilled meal while listening to some electric tunes!



PII MEMBER NOTICE AVAILABLE

We understand the importance of protecting the Personally Identifiable Information (PII) provided by our members. Dakota Electric protects its members' privacy in accordance with all regulatory and legal requirements. To learn more, view our PII member notice brochure by visiting www.dakotaelectric.com/member-services/billing-payments/electric-rates-rights.



Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

4300 220th Street West
Farmington, MN 55024

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Independence Day**
July 4, Office Closed
- **Member Appreciation Event**
July 13, 4-8 p.m.
Minnesota Zoo
- **Board Meeting**
July 27, 8:30 a.m.

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
DAKOTA ELECTRIC
ASSOCIATION

CONNECT WITH US!



DAKOTA ELECTRIC'S MEMBER APPRECIATION EVENT

Thursday, July 13 | 4-8 p.m.



MINNESOTA ZOO®

JOIN US AT THE ZOO FOR OUR FREE MEMBER APPRECIATION EVENT!

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!!

For further details and registration, scan the QR code or go to <https://my.mnzoo.org/all-zoo-rentals/dakota-electric-member-appreciation-day>. Registration is highly encouraged, however we will accept recent electric bills and *Circuits* for admission.

FOOD SHELF DONATION

Please consider donating to our local food shelves by bringing non-perishable food items. Cash donations are also accepted.



For questions regarding rentals or Zoo amenities, please call the Minnesota Zoo at 952-431-9500.

**WE HOPE TO SEE YOU
THERE!**