

Perennial NEWS

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PERENNIAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

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Information about all the rebates available this year.

Be ready for storm season

Tips for being prepared for the upcoming storm season.

Energy for Generations
PERENNIALTM
PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

Opportunities and Growth

February is in the heart of winter and that's when I most look forward to spring. New opportunities come in the spring when the cold loses its grip and frost has left the ground, geese are flying north, and the trees are budding again. I look forward to another season of growth and opportunity.

Staying open to opportunity is the direction we are taking with our wholesale power contract. Last July, Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) offered a new 35-year contract to its wholesale customers. Currently, our Board of Directors see value in staying on the 2016 contract with NPPD. Three other districts have also chosen to stay on the existing contract. The 2016 contract has a 20-year term and continues until 2035. Over the last year both NPPD and Perennial have been working together on the future electric power in Nebraska.

NPPD has committed to build new generation near their Sheldon and Beatrice Power Stations to meet grid stability requirements and serve future loads for Nebraska. As one might expect, the additions are costly and a necessary part of growing opportunities for the state. It is projected that wholesale rates will continue to increase by 3-5 percent annually over the next 5 years to meet the rate of inflation and cover the costs for generation additions and maintaining the grid we rely on.

Just last year, Perennial energized one of the first carbon capture facilities in the state and plans to complete another customer site later this year. These projects lower the Carbon Intensity (CI) of ethanol and make it available to

western states with Low Carbon Fuel Standards (LCFS). Both projects have a direct positive impact on the ethanol industry and the local economy by adding value to corn and other possible feedstocks in the future. By planning and meeting the needs of our customers, we can help bring positive change.

Another positive change is happening in the Bradshaw area. In the past couple of months you may have seen the great progress our crews have made constructing a new 69,000-volt transmission line to our Bradshaw Substation.

This is an 8.5-mile line and the first portion of a loop that will connect to another NPPD substation to the west. Building this loop will improve the

reliability for customers in the northwest area of the District.

President John F. Kennedy once said, "Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future". Perennial is looking to the future and keeping an open door to opportunities that best serve our district. In this last year we have completed our strategic planning with the aim of improving service for our customers. We look forward to serving our existing customers and welcoming new customers loads, both large and small, to our service area.

We have updated our mission statement to "Safe and Reliable Energy. Trusted Service and Commitment for Generations". With this focus and the resolve of our employees and support of our directors we will bring excellent service to our customers both now and in the future.

Safe and Reliable Energy. Trusted Service and Commitment for Generations



Brandon Lehman
General Manager

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On Our Cover:

Kory McManigal ties on tap rod to a conductor. *Photo by Ben Mohorn.*

2026 Incentive Programs

Saving energy and money go hand in hand, which is why Perennial Public Power District, in partnership with Nebraska Public Power District, provides agricultural, commercial, lawn and garden and residential incentive programs to save both energy and money.



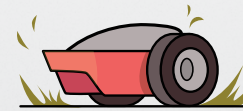
AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

- » **Agriculture**
Projects that improve the welfare of animals and save energy
- » **Automated Grain Aeration**
- » **Corner Pivot Variable Frequency Drive (VFD)**
- » **Custom Ag**
Projects that are unique and do not fit a particular program
(Pre-approval is required)
- » **Irrigation Moisture Sensors**
- » **Prescriptive Irrigation**
Replacing all outlet components on an all-electric center pivot or linear tower system



COMMERCIAL PROGRAMS

- » **Commercial Conduit**
New commercial construction conduit for a future public electric vehicle charging station
- » **Electric Vehicle Charger**
For the installation of a public electric vehicle charging station
- » **Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC)**
- » **Heat Pump Water Heater**
- » **HVAC System Optimization**
- » **Industrial Process Improvements**
Projects that are unique and do not fit a particular program
(Pre-approval is required)
- » **Prescriptive Lighting**
- » **Variable Frequency Drive (VFD)**



LAWN & GARDEN PROGRAMS

- » **Electric Chainsaw, Tiller, Snow Blower, Blower, Trimmers, Edgers, Pruners or Lawn Mower**
(\$1,500 maximum)



RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

- » **Attic Insulation**
- » **Electric Vehicle Charging Station**
- » **Cooling System Tune-Up**
- » **Heat Pump Water Heater**
- » **High Efficiency Heat Pump**
- » **Induction Cooking**
- » **Pre-Wiring To Install An Electric Vehicle Charging Station**
- » **Smart Thermostat**

ENERGYWISESM
Use less. Spend less. Do more.

For program details:

 perennialpower.energywisenebraska.com |  800-289-0288 |  perennial@perennialpower.com

In 2024, Perennial credited customers' accounts a total of \$132,695.50 for those customers who chose to participate in EnergyWiseSM Incentive Programs and contribute to a more sustainable future for all Nebraskans.



CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS AND CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES!

3 out of 5 home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms (38%) or no working smoke alarms (21%).

Be Ready for

Spring is on our doorstep. Springtime brings many activities like cooking out with family and friends, time spent working in the garden, and simply slowing down a bit to enjoy life.

Unfortunately, spring and summer can also create the perfect conditions for severe storms.

Perennial crews are always prepared and standing by to respond should power outages occur in our area. When severe storms cause power disruptions, our line crews take all necessary precautions before they get to work on any downed lines.

We would encourage you to also practice safety and preparedness to protect your family during storms and outages.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency recommends the items below as a starting point for storm and disaster preparedness, but you can visit www.ready.gov for additional resources.

- Stock your pantry with a three-day supply of non-perishable food, including canned goods, energy bars, peanut butter, powdered milk, instant coffee, water, and other essentials (i.e., diapers and toiletries).
- Confirm that you have adequate sanitation and hygiene supplies, including towelettes, soap, and hand sanitizer.
- Ensure your First Aid kit is stocked with pain relievers, bandages, and other medical essentials, and make sure your prescriptions are current.
- Set aside basic household items you will need, including flashlights, batteries, a manual can opener, and a portable, battery-powered radio or TV.
- Organize emergency supplies so they are easily accessible in one location.

In the event of a prolonged power outage, turn off major appliances, TVs, computers, and other sensitive electronics. This will help avert damage from potential power surges and will also help prevent overloading circuits during power restoration. That said, do leave one light on so you will know when power is restored.

If you plan to use a portable generator, make sure it's rated to handle the amount of power you will need, and always review the manufacturer's instructions to operate it safely.

Storm Season

Listen to local news or a NOAA Weather Radio for storm and emergency information, and check Perennial's Facebook page for restoration updates.

Severe storms can occasionally bring down power lines. If you see a downed line, always assume it's energized and never approach it. If flooding occurs, never walk through areas where power lines could be submerged.

Advance planning for severe storms or other emergencies can reduce stress and anxiety caused by the weather event and lessen the impact of the storm's effects.

Sign up for NOAA emergency alerts and warnings and follow us on Facebook for the latest power restoration updates. If you experience an outage, please don't report it on Facebook. Call our outage reporting

number at 402-362-3355 – this is the fastest way to let us know if your power is out.

We hope we don't experience severe storms over the remainder of winter, spring, and summer months, but we can never predict Mother Nature's plans. At Perennial, we recommend that you make a plan today – because storm preparedness is always our best defense.

ARE YOU STORM READY?

Follow these safety and preparation tips during spring and summer storm season.

Be Prepared.

- Create an emergency kit with power outage essentials: batteries, power banks, flashlights, non-perishable foods, water, medical supplies and prescriptions.
- Develop an emergency family plan with meeting points, communication methods and evacuation routes. Share your plan with all family members.
- Monitor weather for important updates that could impact your emergency plan.

Stay Safe.

- Ensure a safe shelter: Stay away from windows and doors. In tornadoes, move to a basement or an interior room without windows.
- Use portable generators safely: operate outdoors in well-ventilated areas, place on a flat, dry surface, do not overload and always read the operating manual before use.
- Severe storms can bring down tree limbs and power lines. If you encounter a downed line, stay back. Always assume a downed line is live and dangerous.



P E R E N N I A L EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Dustin Arduser and Chris Stutzman were awarded the 2025 Good Neighbor Award from the Nebraska Rural Electric Association on December 4, 2025.

The Good Neighbor Award program is designed to recognize individuals for outstanding contributions to their electric system, community, or state. Many individuals often go out of their way to do a good deed for someone in their community or provide some exceptional service to the members of their community. The Good Neighbor Award program recognizes these people who strive to make a contribution to their community and others.

Dustin and Chris were selected for their heroism on October 9th. At approximately 11:00 pm on October 9, 2025, Dustin and Chris were returning from an outage call when they witnessed a semi-truck with a load of hay tipping over while traveling on the south bound lane of US Highway 81 not far from the Village of McCool Junction. Chris called 911 and Dustin pulled the bucket truck to the outside southbound lane to give a barrier to traffic. Dustin then turned on the strobes and flashers as they assessed the scene of the accident. Chris remained on the phone and relayed to the 911 dispatcher that there were two passengers

and that an ambulance would be needed. Dustin went back to the truck and grabbed the ground rod driver and then proceeded to break the front windshield of the semi. Once a portion of the windshield was broken, they were able to pull it away and the passengers exited the semi safely. They stayed and helped until McCool Junction Fire & Rescue showed up. Perennial does monthly safety meetings as well as annual first aid and CPR training, so we're always prepared.

Perennial is thankful to have dedicated employees like Dustin and Chris.

Dustin Arduser and Chris Stutzman were awarded the 2025 Good Neighbor Award for their heroic actions after stopping to assist at a semi-truck rollover near McCool Junction on October 9, helping the occupants safely exit the vehicle before emergency crews arrived.



P E R E N N I A L EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Jerad Kava

Systems Technician



Jerad Kava will celebrate fifteen years of employment at Perennial in February. Kava, a graduate of Metropolitan Community College with degrees in Utility Line and Business, was hired by Perennial in 2011 as an apprentice line technician. In 2015, he was promoted to Journeyman Line Technician, and then in 2024, Jerad was promoted to Systems Technician.

As Systems Technician Kava is responsible for monitoring our SCADA,

Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition, system. The District uses this technology to monitor substations, control circuit switches, and log power system data. Jerad troubleshoots RTUs, Remote Terminal Units, and other end devices. He is our expert in field communications and keeps the system working effectively. He also is responsible for our Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI). This technology has given the District several benefits to better serve our customers including outage notification, transformer loading, voltage monitoring, and others.

Each summer the District serves the electric loads of irrigation wells in York and Fillmore Counties. This additional load increases power demands which can reach 100 megawatts, the equivalent of 130,400 horsepower. We try to keep this demand much lower by offering load control to irrigators. Kava assembles and

programs load control switches which are then installed on irrigation well panels. We currently have over a 1000 switches in the District. He also shares responsibilities in operating the load control system and monitoring load reductions during control periods.

When asked about his favorite part of working as a Systems Technician, Kava stated "Getting to work with a great group of coworkers to bring reliable electricity to the District."

Jerad resides in York with his wife Aubree along with their children Gavin and Anna. After work, Jerad enjoys watching his kids at all of their activities and spending time at the lake with family and friends. Kava also volunteers at his church as well as his kids' school and he coaches Knights baseball. Jerad, we'd like to thank you for fifteen years of dedicated service.

Luke Gruber becomes a Certified Loss Control Professional

Perennial's Operations Coordinator, Luke Gruber has completed an intensive program in electric utility safety and loss control. The Certified Loss Control Program is a series of workshops offered by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association in conjunction with the National Utility Training & Safety Education Association. The program is designed to instruct participants in many areas related to electric utility industry safety.



According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), nearly 4 million injuries occur annually in the workplace. One of the goals of a Certified Loss Control Professional is to help ensure a safe work environment for utility workers and the public in general. Avoiding workplace accidents avoids down time and can ultimately lead to lower utility rates.

Luke Gruber is one of only a few electric utility professionals in the country that will receive this certification this year. The program requires participants to complete

a rigorous series of seminars and tests, a 30-hour OSHA course, and a detailed final course project.

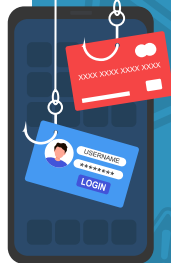
Loss Control participants go through four, week-long sessions that are designed to challenge and educate participants in new, innovative safety techniques. Participants must also maintain their certificate by attending courses every year in order to stay on top of changes in the industry.

Luke Gruber has been with Perennial for 10 years. He graduated with a degree in Utility Line from Northeast Community College in Norfolk after he graduated from high school as a recipient of Perennial's Utility Line Scholarship.

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS

Solar energy is rising in popularity, and so are solar scams. If a salesperson knocks on your door promising free solar panels at zero cost or that you'll never have to pay your energy bill again, it's likely a scam. If you're interested in solar panels for your home, do your research, get multiple quotes from licensed providers who are reputable, and most importantly, take your time to ensure a smooth process.

Source: Federal Trade Commission



Irrigation Deadlines

March 15 - New Service Deadline
April 15 - Load Control Change Deadline



Seal In the Warmth

About 30 percent of your home's heating energy escapes through windows. Use window coverings to minimize energy loss in cold weather and consider smart blinds that automatically adjust based on sunlight and temperature. This helps regulate indoor climate and keeps your heater from kicking on, saving energy.

