### December 2023 >>>



New Manager **Budget Billing Opens** 

**Guard Against Utility Scams** 

Copper Theft

Holiday Closing reminder



Serving Stanton County and parts of Madison, Wayne, Cuming, and Colfax counties

# EnLIGHTening NEWS



About Us >>>

### Stanton County Public Power District: Board of Directors

Gary Koehlmoos ......President Weldon Marotz ......Vice President Jim Scherer .....Secretary Doug Oertwich.....Treasurer John Gall ......Director Bob Schellpeper.....Director

#### **Contact Us:**

Phone – (402)-439-2228 or (877)-439-2228

Website: www.scppd.com Email: scppd@scppd.net

Mail: PO Box 319, Stanton, NE 68779 Office: 807 Douglas St. Stanton, NE Check us out on Facebook & Twitter

Report an Outage: 877-439-2300 for after hours service





### New Employee >>>

Following the resignation of Chad Waldow, the SCPPD Board of Directors conducted a nationwide search for a new General Manager/CEO over the past months and has recently completed the selection process. The Board is pleased to announce the hiring of Trever Turner to be the next General Manager/CEO for the Stanton County Public Power District.

Trever began his career in the utility business at Union County Electric Cooperative in Elk Point, SD, where he started as an Apprentice Lineman. After completing his four-year apprenticeship program, he climbed the ladder quickly, holding positions as lead lineman, crew foreman, and for the last 8 years the manager of operations. He additionally held the title and responsibility of the safety coordinator role. Trever briefly worked as an account manager for Border States Electric before accepting the position with Stanton County Public Power District.

Trever and his wife MeagAnn have been married since September of 2011 and have two children, with their third baby due in December. The family is very excited to become a part of the Stanton community and to set their roots in the area. They enjoy spending time outdoors and are happiest when they're all together.

Trever began his employment on October 31, 2023, and says, "I look forward to leading and working with the Stanton County Public Power District's employee group, and to serve the great customers that make up Stanton County Public Power District with the excellence they deserve. Stanton County Public Power District is in a great position, and I look forward to continuing that trend moving forward. Whether I see you in the front office, out in the community or somewhere in SCPPD's territory, I am excited to meet you all."

### 2024 Budget Open



Applications are open for the 2024 Budget Billing Program as of December 1, 2023.

The budget program is open to all residential customers. The program will follow the customer usage billings from January 1 to December 31 of the year 2024. December billing will reflect the "settle-up" amount and thus close the budget year. Any amount owed the District will be paid in full by the customer. Any amount that appears as a credit balance will remain on the account and adjusted for the new budget cycle.

All applications are due by December 31, 2023 and will be reviewed by SCPPD personnel before activated.

### EnergyWise Incentives >>>

### 2023 Incentive Rebate Programs

Energy Efficiency is important to all! If you are looking for ways to save energy and money, check our list of rebate programs. There are several options for customers to take advantage of in the 2023 year. For more information, check the website at <a href="www.scppd.com">www.scppd.com</a> or call the office at 402-439-2228.



Residential Heat Pump Water Heater: \$400 for air source with an EF > 1.9 \$650 for ground source with an EF > 2.8

High Efficiency Heat Pump: \$400 - \$3000 Incentive Minimum SEER 15, EER 12.5 & HSPF 8.5 Includes Air-to-Air, and Water/Ground source

\*15 SEER incentive discontinued after 2023\* SMART thermostat:

\$25-\$100 Incentive options

Cooling System Tune-up: \$30

Attic Insulation: \$0.15 per square foot - \$300 max.

### Guard against utility scams

## Protect yourself from all forms of fraud and identity theft.

It is the world we live in today – the necessity to pause and consider before we click, answer, or respond to someone seeking information. No industry, person or business is off limits to scammers, who even try to con their way into the utility industry.

When it comes to power bills, scammers make threatening phone calls to consumers to demand immediate payment, or else! (Or else their service will be shut off, they threaten.) This deceiving claim is often made during the height of summer or winter, when people want to stay comfortable during the extreme heat or cold. However, utilities typically send initial disconnection notices in writing.

#### Utility scams: How they get you

Scammers request that immediate payment be wired, loaded on a reloadable gift card or debit card, or sent using cryptocurrency (a digital money system that does not rely on banks for verification). Only scammers request this type of payment and threaten immediate service disconnection. Do not provide any information (including your utility account number) or agree to immediate payment; instead, hang up and check with your utility by using the phone number listed on your power bill. Fake numbers and links can appear in emails and texts.

Utility bills that double the amount due may be a utility scam. Utilities are closely regulated and may not have the right to raise prices substantially. Consumers should trust their gut reaction; if it seems like a fraud, it probably is.

#### Protect personal information!

When supplying your utility (or any business or person) with sensitive information such as a social security number, proof of address or death certificate, do not email the information. Additionally, do not give out sensitive information to anyone who calls you. Verify the phone number and call the utility directly to discuss any matter that would involve providing personal information. In general, some companies do have password-protected, secure methods to obtain personal information via an app or portal, but always verify this before using.

No matter the scam, the goal of the scammer is to gather personal information. Stay safe: Do not share Social Security numbers, account details, credit card numbers, bank information, death certificates or birth dates. Thieves can use this information to steal their victim's identity.

If you become a victim of a scam, report it to the local police and your bank. Consumers can protect themselves by blocking unknown callers and keeping software updated on phones and computers.



Do not provide any information or agree to immediate payment; instead hang up and check with your utility by using the phone number listed on your power bill.



Please bring any sensitive information to our office and do not email it to us. We want to help you keep your personal information secure.



### Help Prevent Copper Theft>>>

Thieves sometimes think of it as a crime that won't hurt anybody. The truth is that tampering with electrical equipment or attempting to steal copper can harm many people.

Those who steal copper (or power) are not only risking their own lives but also the safety and well-being of others.

Common targets for copper theft include farm equipment, air conditioners, vacant buildings, construction sites and electric utility properties, including substations and power poles.

You can help us by being vigilant and reporting anything suspicious. This might include an open gate at a substation when no personnel is around or wire hanging from a pole as if it has been cut.





**EnLIGHTening NEWS** FROM YOUR STANTON COUNTY PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT P.O. BOX 319 STANTON, NE 68779-0319

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# Holiday Closings

The SCPPD office will be closed December 25<sup>th</sup> for the Christmas holiday.

We will also be closed January 1, 2024 for the New Year Holiday.







For valuable, timely information on power outages or important updates; follow us on Twitter! @StantonCoPPD



