

ENLIGHTENING NEWS



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Published bi-monthly by Stanton County
Public Power District

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REPORT AN OUTAGE:

After Hours: (877) 439-2300

Office Hours: Monday - Friday
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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John R Gall: *Vice President*

Robert Schellpeper: *Secretary*

Darin Petersen: *Treasurer*

Tim Reese: *Director*

Gary Koehlmoos: *Director*

MEETING INFORMATION:

Unless otherwise notified, regular meetings
of the Board of Directors shall be held
monthly on the fourth Thursday of each
month. The Directors shall hold their meet-
ings at the general office of the District or at
such other place or places determined by
the Board.

WORD SCRAMBLE

1. KCSOH _____
2. UNBR _____
3. ATCENDSIC _____
4. ERWOP SUREG _____
5. VLIE IRWE _____
6. RTCTCUEOLEE _____
7. ARC UNBR _____
8. RELLCCTEIA NCRTURE _____
9. IRTECCLAEL DZASARH _____
10. EIIECANCTRL _____
11. AMCETNENINA _____



RESIDENTIAL HEAT PUMP/ WATER HEATER

\$400 for Air Source

UEF > 1.9

\$650 for Water or Ground Source COP > 2.8

HIGH EFFICIENCY HEAT PUMP

\$400 - \$3300 Incentive

Minimum SEER 16, EER 12.5 & HSPF 8.5

Includes Air-to-Air, and Water/Ground source

SMART THERMOSTAT:

\$25 - \$100

COOLING SYSTEM TUNE-UP:

\$30

ATTIC INSULATION:

\$0.30 PER SQUARE FOOT - \$600 MAX

At Stanton County Public Power District, our commitment is to provide safe, reliable, and affordable electric service to every customer we serve. As our electrical system continues to grow and evolve, strategic investments in our sub-transmission (Sub-T) system are essential to maintaining reliability and meeting future energy needs.

Our five-year Sub-Transmission Improvement Plan focuses on strengthening the backbone of our electric system by upgrading existing infrastructure, expanding capacity, and improving service throughout the

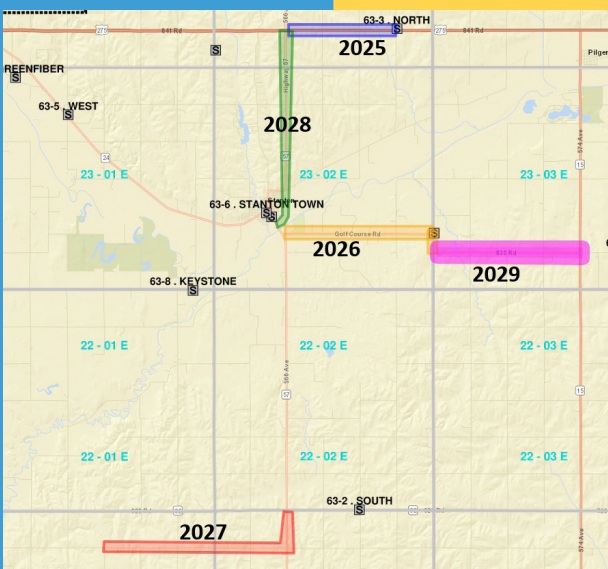
district. These projects will help reduce outage risks, improve system flexibility, and ensure we are prepared for future growth. Stanton County Public Power District currently serves just under 2,800 customers across nearly 770 miles of electric line.

These long-term investments are part of Stanton County Public Power District's ongoing commitment to maintaining a dependable electric system for our homes, farms, businesses, and communities. By proactively improving our sub-transmission network today, we are building a stronger, more resilient

electric grid that will serve our customers well into the future.

We appreciate the continued support and patience of our customers as these important projects move forward. Together, we're investing in the future reliability of public power in our communities.

Investing **in Reliability: Our Five-Year Sub-Transmission Improvement Plan**



Construct approximately 3 miles of new sub-transmission line along Highway 275. Completed. Highlighted in BLUE on the map.

2025

Construct approximately 4.5 miles of sub-transmission line along Golf Course Road. Start date of October 2026. Highlighted in YELLOW on the map.

2026

Build a new substation and construct approximately 6 miles of sub-transmission line in the southwest portion of the district. This project will strengthen the electrical system and improve reliability for customers in that area. Highlighted in RED on the map.

2027

Construct approximately 5.4 miles of sub-transmission line along Highway 57 north of Stanton. Highlighted in GREEN on the map.

2028

Construct approximately 4 miles of sub-transmission line extending west from Highway 15 along Golf Course Road. Highlighted in PINK on the map.

2029

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Investing in Safety, Reliability, and Our Future

At Stanton County Public Power District, the safety of our employees and the public will always be our highest priority. Every decision we make begins with that commitment. Equally important is our responsibility to provide reliable, affordable electric service to the communities we serve. Achieving both requires sound financial stewardship.

When people hear the words financial stewardship, they often think of budgets, spreadsheets, and accounting. While those are certainly important, financial stewardship is about much more than balancing the books. It is about making thoughtful decisions today that allow us to safely and reliably serve our customers for years to come. To our customers, good financial stewardship means having the resources to restore power after a storm, replace aging equipment before it fails, invest in new technologies, and ensure our employees have the training, tools, and equipment needed to work safely.

Like utilities across the country, we continue to experience rising costs for transformers, poles, wire, electrical equipment, insurance, technology, and many of the materials essential to maintaining a reliable electric system. These challenges make it more important than ever that we carefully evaluate every dollar we spend.

One example of our commitment to responsible financial stewardship is our approach to rates. Every few years, the district hires a third-party company to complete a comprehensive Cost of Service and Rate Study to ensure our rates remain equitable and closely aligned with the actual cost of providing service to each customer class. While this process resulted in adjustments among certain rate classes for 2026, the district did not increase its overall rate level despite continued increases in wholesale power costs and many other operating expenses. That outcome reflects years of careful

financial planning, disciplined budgeting, and our commitment to responsibly managing the district's resources. Rather than delaying necessary investments or shifting costs between customer classes, we believe the best approach is to maintain rates that are fair, transparent, and based on the actual cost of providing safe and reliable electric service.

At Stanton County Public Power District, every investment is made with a purpose. We ask ourselves a simple question: Will this investment improve the safety, reliability, or long-term value of the electric system for our customers? Whether we're replacing aging infrastructure, strengthening our electric distribution system, investing in cybersecurity, purchasing equipment that helps our employees perform their jobs safely, or providing ongoing training, our goal is to make responsible decisions that benefit both today's customers and future generations.

FINANCIAL AUDIT UPDATE

Eide Bailly, LLP conducted our annual audit for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025. The audit was presented to the Board of Directors at our April 23, 2026, board meeting.



Good financial stewardship also means planning ahead. Maintaining healthy financial reserves allows us to respond quickly to severe storms, unexpected equipment failures, or other emergencies without compromising the district's financial stability. Preparing for these situations before they arise helps us continue to provide dependable service while avoiding higher costs in the future.

Our goal has never been to simply keep rates low for one year. Our goal is to make prudent financial decisions that keep rates as stable as reasonably possible over the long term while maintaining the safe, reliable service our customers expect.

Simply put, every financial decision we make is ultimately a decision about safety and reliability. Responsible financial management enables us to invest in the people, equipment, and infrastructure needed to safely deliver the dependable electric service our customers expect every day. As a locally governed public power district, we don't answer to outside shareholders. Instead, we are accountable to the people we serve. Every financial decision is made with one purpose in mind: delivering safe, reliable electric service at the lowest reasonable cost while being responsible stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and employees, thank you for the trust you place in Stanton County Public Power District. We remain committed to making thoughtful decisions that strengthen our electric system, protect the district's long-term financial health, and continue providing the safe and dependable service our communities deserve for generations to come.

Trever A. Turner
General Manager & CEO



EMPLOYEE *NEWS*

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

COLLEEN BUTTERFIELD – BILLING REPRESENTATIVE

Colleen has been a valued member of the District for more than 20 years, serving in a variety of roles throughout her career. Her experience, versatility, and knowledge have made her an important part of the team. Today, she serves as a Billing Representative and Customer Service Representative, where she enjoys helping customers and supporting the District's daily operations.

When asked what is working at the District like, Colleen says, *It's an interesting challenge of consistency and change. It's also a strong atmosphere of support, commitment, and growth.*

One of her favorite projects has been helping implement automated meter reading technology.

A Stanton native, Colleen and her husband, Adam, have raised four children: Ben, Joe, Bekah, and Dan.



Outside of work, Colleen hopes to one day travel to Ireland, Scotland, and England. If she could learn any new skill, she'd choose to drive a manual transmission—or learn to fly a plane.



Twenty-six Nebraska high school students recently returned from the Nebraska Rural Electric Association (NREA) Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., where they explored our nation's history, met with Nebraska's congressional delegation, and joined more than 1,800 students from across the country to learn about leadership,

Nebraska Rural Electric Association Hosts Youth Tour

Maci Schellpeper

civic engagement, and the electric utility industry.

Stanton County Public Power District was proudly represented by **Maci Schellpeper** of rural Stanton County, who earned her spot on the trip after attending the NREA Youth Energy Leadership Camp last summer.

Maci recently shared highlights from her experience with the Board of Directors, describing the trip as a fun and memorable learning opportunity. She especially enjoyed visiting the White House, monuments, memorials, and museums throughout Washington, D.C., and was grateful for the chance to represent our district.

Know a high school student interested in leadership or the electric utility industry? Encourage them to attend the NREA Youth Energy Leadership Camp! It's a great opportunity to build leadership skills, make new friends, explore career opportunities, and even earn the chance to represent Stanton County Public Power District on a future Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.



What's Your Backup Plan?

Is your data protected? Your photos and files are at risk of being lost from environmental disasters, theft, malware, data corruption, and hardware failures. To keep your data safe, you need to develop a solid plan that can protect against any disaster.

3-2-1 Backup Method

Even though the 3-2-1 method has many variations, it has been proven to protect data for decades. This method involves:

Keeping three copies of your data:

This includes the original copy plus two other copies.

Stored on two different mediums:

Between all three copies, your data should be stored on at least two different mediums, such as your local hard drive and the cloud or an external drive.

With one off-site copy:

This medium could either be in the cloud or on a removable drive stored at another location, like a safety deposit box. Either way, the off-site copy should not be stored in the same location, such as your home, as the original copy.

Developing a Backup Plan

Now that you understand the 3-2-1 method of backing up data, you will need to decide which applications and mediums will be used. Most devices contain built-in applications to run backups, but you may choose to use a third-party application instead. Applications on mobile devices usually sync to a cloud application. Applications on your PC will allow you to choose your backup location, such as to an external drive or to the cloud. You will need to choose which applications and mediums best fit your backup plan.

Once you have decided which applications and mediums you will use, you will need to assess a few other things:

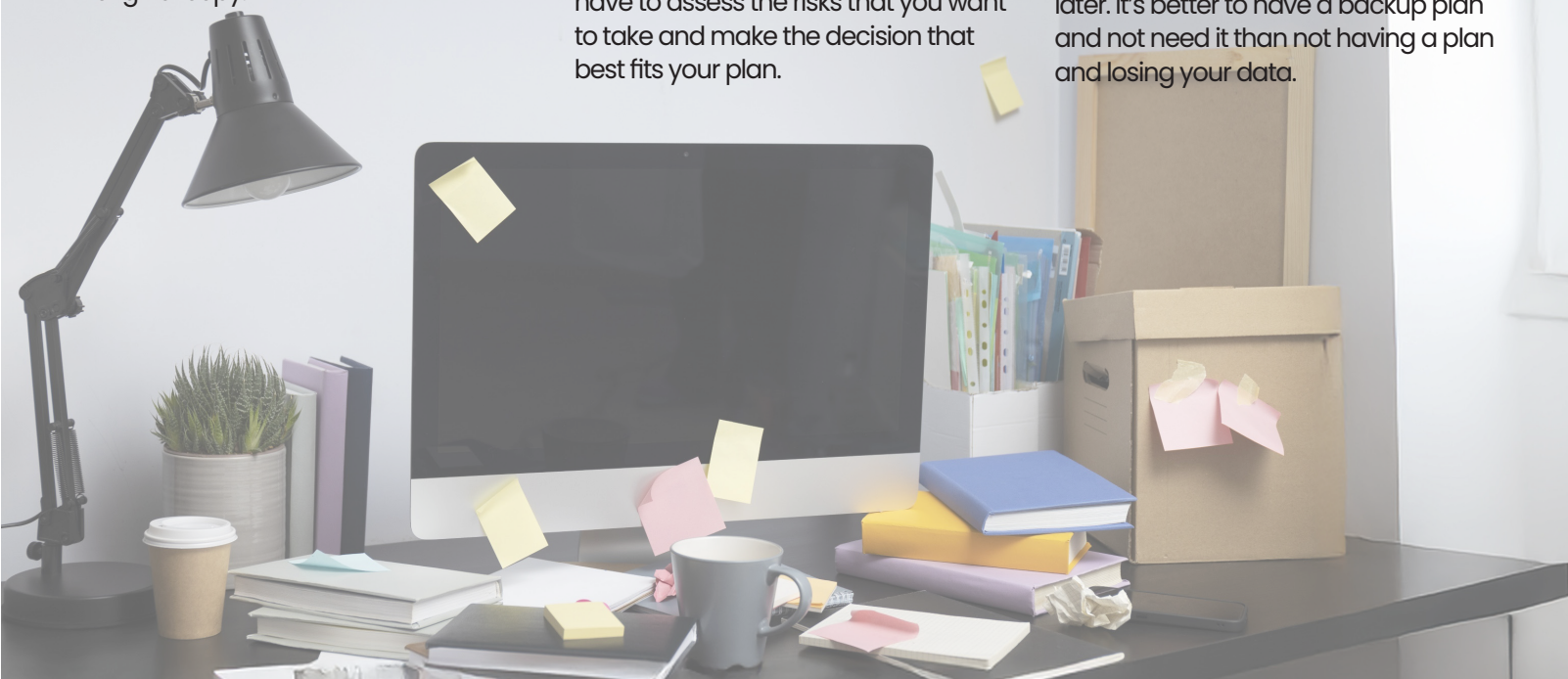
1. How often do you need to backup. If your data changes daily, you may need to back up once a day. Maybe you don't do much with your data and can back it up once a week. You will have to assess the risks that you want to take and make the decision that best fits your plan.

2. How long to keep your backups. The more backups you keep, the more drive space you will need. Size your backup mediums according to the size of your data and how many copies will be stored.

3. Sensitive data. If you are backing up sensitive data, you may also want to add encryption and multi-factor authentication to protect against data and hardware theft.

Once you have weighed the risks and developed a plan, you are ready to start backing up your data. However, you still need to test your backup files. Schedule a time where you can practice restoring your backups and spot verify that the data is working properly. You will want to do this a few times per year to keep your backups safe.

These tips should give you a great place to start to develop your data backup plan. If you are not ready to use the 3-2-1 method, start with using one external medium and expand later. It's better to have a backup plan and not need it than not having a plan and losing your data.



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**From Your Stanton County
Public Power District**

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BE A LIFESAVER

...the water is NOT fine



DANGERS of swimming at a marina include:

1. Electric shock drowning.
2. Carbon monoxide poisoning from boat exhaust.
3. Contaminated water from a storm or spill.
4. Impact from a boat or its propellers.

Marinas are not meant to be swimming areas because docks and boats can carry sources of electricity. If this electricity seeps into the water due to faulty wiring, the water becomes energized.

If you are exposed to water that is charged with electrical current, **you can be shocked and even drown** — this is known as electric shock drowning. There are also other dangers of swimming near a marina.

Ensure marinas have ground fault circuit interrupters installed and that they are tested often. Keep your boat's electrical system well-maintained and **have it inspected regularly**.



**Know what's below.
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