

THE PowerLines REPORT



1 | Response Plan

2 | Electric Vehicles

3 | Power Pole Safety

4 | Lineman Appreciation

April 2020

Focusing on Your Health and Ours

DMEA's Board of Directors and staff members will continue to closely monitor the progression of COVID-19 and take all reasonable actions to mitigate the impact to our community. At this time, DMEA's Board of Directors also wishes to share the following message with the membership.

Dear members,

None of us ever hopes there will be a true need for a Pandemic Response Plan, let alone that we would be in this advanced stage of activating one. These are uncertain times, but as your DMEA Board of Directors, we wanted to tell you a few things that are weighing heavy on our hearts and minds.

Your health and the health of the DMEA employees who serve you: Since we first activated our Pandemic Response Plan early this month, the number one priority has been to keep both you and DMEA employees safe. DMEA provides an essential service—one we all depend on to keep our lights on, our food cold, and our coffee hot. We know that shutting our doors and restricting access to our employees is frustrating. But, it's necessary in order to ensure that our people, especially those who keep the power flowing, stay healthy.

Keeping essential services on: There's no doubt: Electricity powers modern life in America. We want you to know DMEA has a solid electric system. We are confident in the equipment, technology, and software that we use everyday to ensure safe

and reliable electricity powers our valley. While we may have one of the most reliable grids in the nation, outages will happen. We want you to know that our commitment to safely restoring power has not and will not change throughout this pandemic.

Your family's financial well-being: We are thankful for the ability to allow our employees to continue to serve you from home. But we recognize not everyone is so lucky. Many of our members are experiencing reduced hours or even layoffs. We don't want you to have to choose between feeding your family or paying your electric bill, which is why we won't turn your power off even if you can't pay your bill. We still have to bill you, but your power will remain on regardless of your ability to pay. We're also asking that those who can continue to pay their bill do so; that way we can focus on helping those who are most impacted by COVID-19. If you are able, please also considering rounding up your bill each month so our Operation Round Up team can donate more dollars to families in need.

We're honored that you trust us with your business, and we will do all we can to continue to earn that trust during this time. Together, we'll see our way through this situation. We appreciate your grace and understanding as we navigate the unknown.

With Gratitude,

DMEA Board of Directors

Pay your bill:

Access your account 24/7/365 online:

DMEA - dmea.smarthub.coop

Elevate - elevatefiber.smarthub.coop

Call our offices and use a secure phone payment system:

DMEA - 877-687-3632

Elevate - 844-386-8744

Drop your payment off at one of the following places:

Montrose

Both City Markets

Safeway

Paonia

Don's Market

Cedaredge

Cedaredge Mercantile

DMEA Offices

Outside either local office

Use a self-serve kiosk:

Located in the vestibules of each DMEA office and the Hotchkiss Chamber of Commerce Info Booth.

Report an outage or internet service issue:

For electric service issues or to report an outage, call DMEA at 877-687-3632. To report an internet service issue or get in touch with tech support, call Elevate at 844-386-8744.

Ask general questions:

Call us: DMEA: 877-687-3632; Elevate: 844-386-8744

Visit our websites: www.dmea.com or www.elevateinternet.com

Email us: csrs@dmea.com or getanswers@elevateinternet.com

2020 DMEA Elections

Nomination period open

Interested in running for DMEA's Board of Directors? Seats in District #6, District #7, and the North Region are up for election this year. Self-nomination packets became available on April 3, and are due back to DMEA before close of business Monday, May 4. Visit www.dmea.com/selfnomination to get started.

Meet the Candidates

Get to know your DMEA board candidates before you vote at one of the upcoming DMEA Candidate Forums.

Monday, May 18

5:30 - 7:30PM

Grand Mesa Arts & Event Center
195 W Main St., Cedaredge

Tuesday, May 19

5:30 - 7:30PM

DMEA Montrose Office
11925 6300 Rd., Montrose

*Events are subject to change due to COVID-19 response. Please see www.dmea.com for up to date information.

ELECTRIC VEHICLES VS. INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE (ICE) VEHICLES

Electric vehicles are increasing in popularity. With charging infrastructure rapidly increasing and batteries that can go longer than ever, how do they stack up to standard ICE vehicles?

EV WINS

- Greater Energy Efficiency
- Zero Tailpipe Emissions
- Higher Performing
- Increased Energy Security
- Support U.S. Economy
- Lower Fuel Cost
- Home Recharging
- Far Less Maintenance
- Tax Incentives

EV LOSSES

- Cost of Replacement Batteries
 - Time at the Pump
- Lack of Infrastructure
 - Range Anxiety



Thank You, DMEA LINEMEN



Every April, we take a moment to recognize our linemen in honor of National Cooperative Lineman Appreciation Day which takes place on April 8, 2020. Most of us don't often think about the men and women who build, repair, and maintain our nation's power system, but it takes a lot to be a lineworker.

After completing high school, potential lineworkers must attend and successfully complete a 1-year hotline school. Then, they are eligible to be hired by a utility, like DMEA, as an apprentice lineman where they must complete an apprenticeship program. DMEA's program is an intensive 4-year plan that requires 8,000 hours of on-the-job training, countless hours of book work, dozens of tests, and constant evaluations from peers and the Apprenticeship Committee. It is only after successfully completing all this work that a lineworker is official certified as a Journeyman Lineman.

Congratulations to Wade Rowley, pictured center, for recently completing his apprenticeship. In February 2020, he passed his final test, ending his apprenticeship with a 98% test average and is DMEA's newest Journeyman Lineman.



Join us as we recognize all our Journeyman and Apprentice Linemen:

Troy Hall
Cody Carver
Cody Manganello
Wade Wilson
Scott Breithaupt
Numa Dessauer
Josh Lenz
Tim Brandon
Guy Gard
Cameron Atwood
Bill Hughes
Ivor Ayers
Chance Stevens
Steve Holst
Mike Kuta
Cole Zurich
Heath Thaute
Nate Puderbaugh
Marty Elliot
Wade Rowley
Luke Moore
Nick Reich
Bailey Hoffmeister
Colton Spencer

Thank a Lineman

Send a thank you note to:

DMEA Lineman Appreciation,
PO Box 910, Montrose, CO 81401
or email: communications@dmea.com
with your quick note of appreciation.



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Montrose Office

11925 6300 Road
Montrose, CO 81401
M, W, F; 8:00am-5:00pm
T & Th; 8:00am-6:00pm

Contact Us:

1-877-687-3632 | www.dmea.com | [f](#) [y](#) [t](#) [i](#)

Read Office

21191 H 75 Road
Delta, CO 81416
M & W; 9:00am-4:00pm

Your Board of Directors:

Bill Patterson, District 1
Brad Harding, District 3
Chris Hauck, District 5
Vacant, District 7
Jock Fleming, South

Kyle Martinez, District 2
Ken Watson, District 4
Damon Lockhart, District 6
Stacia Cannon, North

DMEA Board Meetings are open to all members and are generally held on the 4th Tuesday monthly beginning at 3PM with the public comment period at 5PM. Call 970-240-1212 to confirm date, time, and location.

Recipes Info:

Submit recipes, including your name, address, and phone number to:

DMEA Newsletter
PO Box 910
Montrose, CO 81402

Or email your information to communications@dmea.com.

If your recipe is published, claim your prize by calling (269)598-9386 within 60 days.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO

in an auto accident with power lines?



If the car you are in hits a utility pole, your vehicle and the surrounding area can become energized.

Even if you do not touch lines or equipment, **you can still be killed or seriously injured.**

- 1. Do NOT leave the car**, and warn others to stay away.
- 2. Call 911** to have the utility notified.
- 3. Wait** until a utility professional has told you it is safe.

The only reason to exit the vehicle is **if it's on fire.**

If the car is on fire, jump clear of the vehicle with feet together and without touching the car and the ground at the same time.

Continue to **HOP AWAY** with your feet together as far as you can. Don't walk.

HOME COOKING



Power Balls

Lana Culver, Montrose



Ingredients:

- 2 cups old fashioned rolled oats
- 1 cup peanut butter or almond butter
- 1/2 cup honey
- 2 tbsp ground flax seed

Optional:

- 1/2 cup mini chocolate chips
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries

Directions:

Mix ingredients in your food processor or mix together in a bowl. Refrigerate for 30 minutes, then roll into bite-sized balls. Store in the fridge or freezer.

WE'RE IN NEED OF YOUR RECIPES!

Submit your best recipe, along with your name, address and photo of your dish, to communications@dmea.com

If we print your recipe, you win a \$25 gift card.

WE DO MORE

(because fast internet is a given)



If your internet company isn't giving you fast internet, they probably shouldn't be your internet company. Tell us what it would take to make you switch to Elevate - you just might be surprised.

It's a pain to switch your internet.

While we can't take away every hassle, we can make switching to Elevate just a bit easier. That's why we'll never play any pricing games, hit you with hidden fees, or charge you for your WiFi router. And yeah, we might get that mountain of laundry taken care of too.

Get more than just internet. Get internet and some crisp, folded laundry while you're at it.

Fast internet

per month

150 Mbps

\$54.95

1,000 Mbps (1 Gig)

\$54.95
for three
months

~~\$79.95~~

Simple TV

Locals (20+ channels)

\$29.95

Expanded (70+ channels)

\$84.95

Extreme (120+ channels)

\$109.95

Reliable home phone

Unlimited local & long distance

\$30.00

elevateinternet.com / 844-386-8744     

Available in live service areas only. Includes 1 Gig service for the first 3 months for the price of 150 Mbps (\$54.95/mo). After 3 months, regular pricing (\$79.95/mo) applies. Subscribers may switch to 150 Mbps at any time. Installation is zero money down and \$10/mo., for 10 months or \$100 upfront. Initial 12-month contract required. Internet service is required for TV and phone. Speeds are up to 1 Gig.

ELEVATE™

FAST INTERNET ▶ (for real)