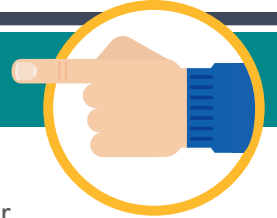


## Ways Members Can Support Their West Wetaskiwin REA



### Promote West Wetaskiwin REA and Help us Grow

Electricity delivery in the West Wetaskiwin REA Service area is facilitated by becoming a member of the REA and **having service requests and construction completed by our system operator, Battle River Power Coop**. For members who are subdividing their land either to sell or to bequeath, it is important those recipient individuals become members of the West Wetaskiwin REA. West Wetaskiwin REA and Battle River Power Coop have a service request process that is quick and very user-friendly.

Simply go to the website [www.westwetaskiwinrea.com](http://www.westwetaskiwinrea.com). In the top black bar click on <Services>. In the drop down menu, click on <New Or Changes To Services>. Complete and submit the form that appears.

Alternatively you may call Battle River Power Coop Operations Department toll-free <1-877-428-3972>.

### Protect Installations: Guy-Wires & Power Poles

Guy-wires are tensioned cables designed to add stability to a free-standing structure. Some utility poles need guy-wires to support loads and to resist ground movement. While guy-wires are not energized they may occasionally conduct electricity, in particular if they are compromised by uncommon forces like contact with motorized vehicles such as snowmobiles, farm equipment and/or livestock.

Repeated contact with livestock can decrease the stability of a pole (see photos below). An unstable utility pole could result in a single member power outage and/or a distribution system disruption.

Members are encouraged to check their property for potential livestock and guy-wire/power pole interactions.



Cattle rubbing



Horses nibbling

### Use Caution When Moving Equipment

**Check equipment height and width.** When moving equipment it is important to know their height and width. Note the maximum height for equipment for farm yard entrances or field access roads is 4.15 meters (13.6 feet). For width, you should remain 7 meters (23 feet) away from power lines when parked or operating. Pay special attention when operating grain augers, air seeders, when lifting truck boxes or operating back hoes.

**Plan ahead before moving tall equipment near or around power lines.** Map your route and remember if powerlines require lifting, you must contact Battle River Power Coop's Operations Department (our distribution system operator) at least 7 days in advance for a powerline lift. If the height of your load is more than 4.15 meters (13.6 feet) it is considered "over height" and you will need to get a permit from Alberta Transportation.

#### Remember:

**Battle River Power Coop can help you plan the most efficient route – call 1-877-428-3972.**



#### For Power Troubles:

Battle River Power Coop (our distribution system operator)  
Toll-free: 1-877-428-3972

#### For RRO Billing and Account Inquiries:

Battle River Power Coop | Box 1420 Camrose, Alberta T4V 1X3  
Toll-free: 1-877-428-3972  
E-mail: [brpc@brpower.coop](mailto:brpc@brpower.coop) | Website: [www.brpower.coop](http://www.brpower.coop)

#### For REA Inquiries, New Service and Service Change Requests:

Contact West Wetaskiwin REA, RR #1  
Station Main, Wetaskiwin, Alberta T9A 1W8  
Tel: 780-335-9378 (WEST)

E-mail: [westwet@telus.net](mailto:westwet@telus.net) | Website: [www.westwetaskiwinrea.com](http://www.westwetaskiwinrea.com)

**For service requests: go to [www.westwetaskiwinrea.com/new-or-changes-to-services.html](http://www.westwetaskiwinrea.com/new-or-changes-to-services.html)**

## Correction

Sincere apologies from the newsletter editor for the misspelling of the names of two directors: Dave Watt and Mike Wollin in last month's season's greetings.

## Power Line Precautions

**Plan your projects** to ensure you have located all power lines before doing any work in an area where you might come in contact with them. Before digging or driving posts into the ground, contact Utility Safety Partners (formerly Alberta One Call) at 1-800-242-3447 to locate and mark underground power infrastructure. Locate Requests can also be actioned online: [utilityafety.ca/wheres-the-line/submit-a-locate-request/](http://utilityafety.ca/wheres-the-line/submit-a-locate-request/).

**Safe Limits** – The safe limit of approach is the minimum safe distance between a power line and any person or equipment in proximity to the line. Limits of approach are legislated through the Alberta Electrical Utility Code and they vary considerably with different structures and different voltages (e.g. high voltage transmission lines, medium voltage distribution lines, substations, transformers, and low voltage secondary lines). If you are planning work anywhere near power infrastructure, contact our distribution system operation contractor, Battle River Power Coop (1-877-428-3972), to confirm voltage and verify the safe limits of approach for your specific work project and environment.

### Stack and store wisely around power infrastructure.

Whether you're storing grain in a bin, a pile of hay bales, or other objects stack and store at least 7 meters (23 feet) away from power lines. Remember that even non-metallic materials such as lumber, tires, straw and hay can conduct electricity depending on dampness and surface dirt.



## Vegetation Management: Trees & Power Lines

Vegetation is one of the leading causes of outages on both distribution and transmission systems. In addition to increased costs for the REA, tree and power line conflicts pose serious safety issues for both utility employees and others. As an electric utility, the West Wetaskiwin REA must comply with all legislated safety rules (e.g., Alberta Electrical Utilities Codes, etc.)

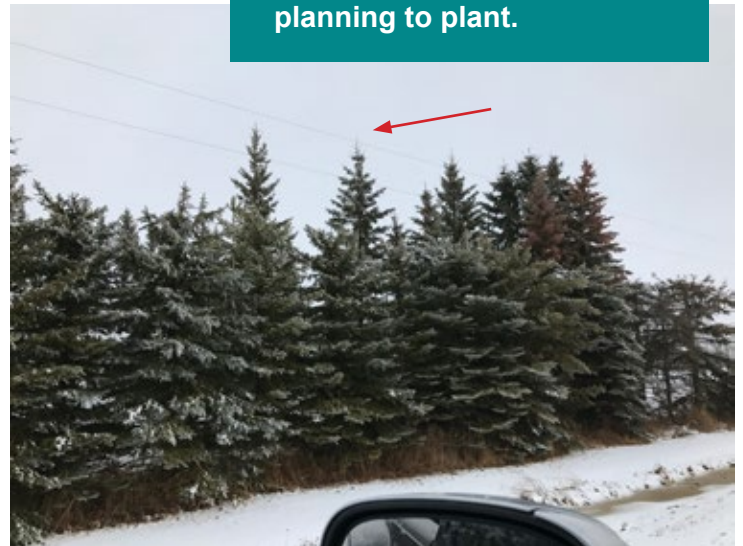
There is minimum clearance area for trees and other vegetation – identified as the Utility Right-of-Way (ROW) – that conforms to regulations

The REA is responsible for vegetation management on all the distribution lines up to and including the transformer pole. REA members are responsible for all vegetation on their respective secondary lines after the transformer pole.

West Wetaskiwin REA offers members options for vegetation management of the distribution system within their ROW area – for details visit [www.westwetaskiwinrea.com/vegetation-mgmt](http://www.westwetaskiwinrea.com/vegetation-mgmt).

We encourage members to plan appropriately when planting to avoid situations demonstrated in the photo below.

**Check with a landscaper or greenhouse to determine the canopy width and height of any trees you are planning to plant.**



### Regulated Rate Option



The Regulated Rate Option (RRO) may increase or decrease from month to month as it is priced on the open market and subject to many factors relating to supply and demand. It is not a 'regulated' rate, rather is a default rate. If you do not have a contract with an electricity retailer, then you are on the RRO. For December 2022, the RRO is priced at \$0.25149 per kWh, reflected on your enclosed orange bill. For January 2023, the Battle River Power Coop monthly RRO billing rate is \$0.13500.

**Members are free to purchase electricity services from a retailer of their choice. For a list of retailers, visit [ucahelps.alberta.ca](http://ucahelps.alberta.ca) or call 310-4822 (toll free in Alberta).**