

NEWSLETTER June 2023 – Issue 115

# **Thunderstorm Safety**

During lightning and thunderstorms, it is essential to prioritize safety around power poles and power lines to minimize the risk of accidents and electrical hazards. Here are some guidelines to follow during storm season in Alberta:

**FENN RURAL** 

ASSOCIATION

**ELECTRIFICATION** 

- **1. Stay informed:** Pay attention to weather forecasts and warnings issued by local authorities. This will help you anticipate and prepare for storms in advance.
- 2. Stay indoors: Seek shelter in a sturdy building or a vehicle during thunderstorms. Avoid being outside in open areas, especially near power poles and overhead power lines.
- **3. Keep a safe distance:** Maintain a safe distance from power poles and power lines at all times. The minimum recommended distance is 10 meters. Never touch or go near a downed power line, as it may still be energized and pose a significant danger.
- **4. Avoid contact:** Do not touch any part of a power pole, including metal guy wires or any equipment attached to it. Lightning can strike the pole, and the electrical current can travel through conductive objects, potentially causing electric shocks.
- 5. Don't climb or hang objects: Never climb or hang objects, such as signs or decorations, on power poles or near power lines. These can become conductors during a lightning strike and increase the risk of electrical accidents.

- 6. Report hazards: If you notice any damaged or leaning power poles, sagging power lines, or vegetation in close proximity to power lines, report them immediately to Battle River Power Coop to address the issue promptly and ensure public safety.
- 7. Stay away from water: During thunderstorms, avoid activities near bodies of water, such as lakes, rivers, or pools, as water is an excellent conductor of electricity.
- 8. Be cautious when using electronic devices: Unplug sensitive electronic devices or use surge protectors to safeguard them from power surges caused by lightning strikes.
- **9. Teach children about safety:** Educate children about the dangers of power poles and power lines during storms. Instruct them to stay away from these structures and seek shelter indoors.

### Remember

During severe storms, it is crucial to prioritize personal safety. If you encounter a hazardous situation involving power poles or power lines, contact your local utility company or emergency services for assistance.

For power outages, emergency power troubles and service requests, contact the distribution system operator for FENN REA: **ATCO Electric** Phone toll-free: 1-800-668-2248

#### FENN REA

Box 31,Fenn, Alberta T0J 1K0 Phone: c/o Philip Jarmin, 1-403-740-9384 Email: fennrea@gmail.com www.fennrea.com

#### **Battle River Power Coop**

Member Care & Billing Box 1420, Camrose AB T4V 1X3 Phone toll-free:1-877-428-3972 Email: brpc@brpower.coop www.brpower.coop

## Did You Know?

Fenn Rural Electrification Association was registered on July 9, 1951 and today remains as an example of grass roots co-operation in the REA tradition. As other co-operative Alberta REAs, FENN REA continues to be the benchmark of the true cost of electricity delivery to rural Alberta service area.

# Call Control

Do you have Call Control setup on your phone? You might be missing important information from Battle River Power Coop!

Add our number to your safe calls list by contacting your service provider. For detailed instructions, check our social media or visit Battle River Power Coop's website.



Battle River Power Coop (780) 672-7738

## Regulated Rate Option (RRO)

The RRO rate 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. If you do not have a contract with an electricity retailer, then you receive the default RRO rate.

For June 2023, the RRO is priced at \$0.19239 per kWh, which is reflected on your enclosed bill. For July 2023, the Battle River Power Coop monthly RRO billing rate for FENN REA members is \$0.29376. The RRO rate is also listed on <u>www.fennrea.com</u>.

Members are free to purchase natural gas services or electricity services from a retailer of their choice. For a list of retailers, visit <u>ucahelps.alberta.ca</u> or call 310-4822 (toll free in Alberta).