

# FENN RURAL ELECTRIFICATION ASSOCIATION

# **NEWSLETTER**

May 2020 - Issue 78



Thunderstorm season in Canada is identified as the months of June, July and August and following are some guidelines to get you through the season safely.

To plan for a safe day, check the weather forecast first. If thunderstorms are forecast, avoid being outdoors at the time or make an alternate plan. Identify safe places and determine how long it will take you to reach them.

If you are out, watch the skies for developing thunderstorms and listen for thunder. As soon as you hear thunder, get to a safe location. If you can hear thunder, then you are susceptible to being hit by lightning. In fact, more people are struck before and after a thunderstorm than during one.

**Get to a safe place.** A safe location is a fully enclosed building with wiring and plumbing. Sheds, picnic shelters, tents or covered porches DO NOT protect you from lightning. If no sturdy building is close by, get into a metal-roofed vehicle and close all windows.

If caught outdoors far away from shelter, stay away from tall objects. This includes trees, poles, wires and fences. Take shelter in a low-lying area but be on the alert for other storm dangers, such as flooding.

**If you are in your car during lightning,** do not park under tall objects that could topple, and do not get out

if there are downed power lines nearby. Be aware of downed power lines that may be touching your car. You are safe inside the car, but you may receive a shock if you step outside. If you see a downed powerline, call 911 or ATCO at 1-800-668-2248.

Do not handle electrical equipment, telephones or plumbing. These are all electrical conductors. Using a computer or wired video game systems, taking a bath or touching a metal windrow frame all put you at the risk of being stuck by lightning – use battery operated appliances only.

If you come across a downed power line, stay at least 10 meters away (33 feet). Warn others to stay away and call your power provider ATCO 1-800-668-2248 or call 911 and report the location.

If you come across someone who has been struck, call for medical assistance immediately and, if breathing has stopped, you may administer mouth-to-mouth or cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR). People who have been struck by lightning do not carry an electrical charge and can be safely handled, but victims suffering from burns or shock should receive medical attention immediately.

Remember, when thunder roars, GO INDOORS!

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

## **County of Stettler Reminders**

## Weed of the Month

Scentless Chamomile is a noxious weed that is widespread through Alberta. It commonly grows along roadsides, forage crops, and in cultivated areas where bare ground may allow it to establish quickly. If left uncontrolled, this weed can quickly spread over a large area due to its ability to produce up to one



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million seeds from a single plant.

Scentless Chamomile plants are generally very bushy, have finely divided leaves, and when blooming have small daisy-like ends at the end of each branch. Mowing this weed may spread mature seeds, as this plant continually produces seeds throughout the growing season. Plants that are hand pulled should be burned or bagged in order to remove the seeds from the affected area.

# **Development Setbacks For Agricultural Operations**

Remember that you do not need a development permit from the County for any agricultural operation as long as any structures such as hay sheds, granaries, dugouts, livestock shelters and barns meet the 125 feet setback from the center line of the County road.

Shelterbelts must be set back 75 feet from the center line of the road. If you would like to vary from these setbacks for any agricultural operation, you would require a development permit.

You may need a license/permit from the Natural Resources Conservation Board if your agricultural operation includes a confined feeding operation (please call the NRCB at 1-340-5241).

For more information regarding development please contact the County's Planning & Development Department at 403-742-4441.

## **Ag Rentals**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some equipment is not currently available for rent. If you need short term equipment for a project, contact the Agricultural Services Board @ 403-742-4441 to confirm what may be available to fulfill your needs.



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 May 2020, the RRO is priced at \$0.06325 per kWh, which is reflected on your enclosed bill. For June 2020, the Battle River Power Coop monthly RRO billing rate for FENN REA members is \$0.06304. The RRO rate is also listed on www.fennrea.com.

Members are free to purchase 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).