



On-line Scams *Always Beware*



Free trial offer! (Just pay forever)

How it works: You see an Internet offer for a free one-month trial of some amazing product—often a teeth whitener or a weight-loss program. All you pay for is a nominal fee for shipping and handling.

What's really going on: Buried in fine print, often in a color that washes into the background, are terms that obligate you to pay substantial monthly fees (as much as \$100/month), forever.

Avoidance maneuver: Read the fine print on offers, and don't believe every testimonial.



Your computer is infected! (And we can help)

How it works: A window pops up about a legitimate-sounding antivirus software program like "Antivirus XXX" or "SecurityTool," alerting you that your machine has been infected with a dangerous bug. You're prompted to click on a link that will run a scan. Of course, the scan finds the virus and for a small fee, the company promises to clean up your computer.

What's really going on: When you click on the link, the bogus company installs malware—malicious software—on your computer where they are able to access your confidential information. "Scareware" is one of the most costly Internet scams affecting millions of users daily.

Avoidance maneuver: If you get a pop-up virus warning, close the window without clicking on any links. Then run a full system scan using legitimate, updated antivirus software.



Travel scams (Don't get wander-lost)

How it works: You get an email advertising an amazing deal on airline tickets to some exotic destination. Or, you see such a deal on the social media account of what appears to be a legitimate airline.

What's really going on: Like the "free trial" scam, these travel scams often have all sorts of extra costs hidden in the fine print behind that cheap price. The peak time for these kinds of online scams is summertime, with Christmas and New Years the second most popular time.

Scammers intentionally choose exotic places that would be difficult to get to without their "amazing offer." Finally, they throw in an expiration date, hoping that a sense of urgency will prompt you to buy quickly.

Avoidance maneuver: Scour the details of the offer before clicking any sort of confirmation button, and certainly before giving any payment information. Make sure that what you see really is what you get. And, even if you crave that special trip, it can't hurt to get a second pair of eyes as well.

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?

Summer Lightning Storm Safety

Canada averages over 2 million lightning strikes each year and that annually between 9 and 10 people are killed and over 160 people are injured by lightning. More than 94% of lightning related deaths and 74% of injuries have occurred between June and August (summer season). Additionally, the vast majority of deaths/injuries occur in the Thursday to Saturday period. The school of thought is this is related to higher rates of outdoor activity (i.e., weekends).

If you hear thunder, take shelter immediately. If you cannot find a sturdy, fully enclosed building, get into an all-metal vehicle (not a convertible) as it is the metal cage that protects you from lightning. Regrettably this guideline is becoming a challenge for some farmers caught in their fields as tractors and other large farm equipment, traditionally made out of steel, are being replaced with materials like fiberglass and plastic.

If you shelter indoors, stay away from electrical appliances and equipment, doors, windows, fireplaces, and anything else that will conduct electricity, such as water—so delay taking a shower, doing laundry, or washing the dishes by hand. Being indoors does not guarantee your safety.

Use battery operated or cordless devices only as electrical current from the lightning strike will travel through wires and cords using the path of least resistance. If your equipment is directly connected to a power source and or internet feed, then you are not safe. If you are using equipment with no wire connecting it to a power source (e.g., wireless laptop), then you are safe.

If caught outside away from safe shelter, do not stand near tall objects such as trees, poles, wires and fences or anything made of metal, avoid open water and take shelter in a low-lying area, keeping an eye out for

possible flooding. Note that picnic shelters, dugouts, and small buildings without plumbing or electricity are not safe. If caught on the water, quickly get to shore.

If you are in your vehicle during lightning, do not park under tall objects that could topple, and do not get out if there are downed power lines nearby. You are safe inside, 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.

Once in, or at, the safest location available to you, remain there for 30 minutes after the last rumble of thunder is heard before resuming any outdoor activities. Remember, every time you hear thunder rumble you need to restart the clock until 30 minutes has passed.

If you encounter someone that has been struck by lightning, it is important to note that lightning-strike victims carry no electrical charge; however, victims may be suffering from burns or shock and should receive medical attention immediately. Call 911 and if breathing has stopped, administer mouth-to-mouth or cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Remember

***when thunder roars,
go indoors!***

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 2019, the RRO is priced at \$0.06205 per kWh, which is reflected on your enclosed bill. For July 2019, the Battle River Power Coop monthly rate as calculated under the RRO regulation is \$0.06800; the billing rate charged to FENN REA members is \$0.06800. The RRO rate is also listed on www.fennrea.com.

The delivery of electricity to you is not affected by your choice. If you change who you purchase electricity services from, you will continue receiving electricity from the distribution company in your service area.

For information about the electricity industry and for a list of Alberta licensed retailers, visit the Utilities Consumer Advocate at www.ucahelps.alberta.ca or call toll free 310-4822. For a list of retailers registered within the FENN REA area visit: www.fennrea.com.

Information on **FENN REA's Code of Conduct Compliance Plan** can be found on our website: www.fennrea.com