

CATSKILL HI-LINE

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

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March/April 2021

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Powering Our Rural Communities

Lineworker Appreciation Day

If you were asked to associate an image or a person with Delaware County Electric Cooperative (DCEC), I bet you would picture a lineworker. One of the most visible employees of the co-op, lineworkers work tirelessly to ensure our community receives uninterrupted power 24/7.

“Lineworker” is listed as one of the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S. This is understandable as they perform detailed tasks near high-voltage power lines. Regardless of the time of day, having to brave stormy weather and other challenging conditions, lineworkers must climb 40 feet in the air, often carrying heavy equipment to get the job done.

Being a lineworker is not a glamorous or easy profession. It takes years of specialized training, ongoing education, dedication, and equally important, a sense of service and commitment. How else can you explain the willingness to leave the comfort of your home to tackle a challenging job in difficult conditions, when most are sheltering comfortably at home? This dedication and sense of service to the community is truly what sets them apart. That’s why we set aside the second Monday in April each year to celebrate and recognize the men and women who work around the clock to keep the lights on.

While lineworkers may be the most visible employees at DCEC, it’s important to note that there is a team of highly skilled professionals working behind the scenes. Engineers provide ongoing expertise and guidance on the operations side of the co-op. Member service representatives are always standing by to take your calls and questions. And these are just a few of the folks who work together to ensure we can deliver the service and reliability you expect and deserve. Without them, our lineworkers wouldn’t be able to “bring the light” to our community.

Our dedicated and beloved lineworkers are proud to represent DCEC, and they deserve all the appreciation and accolades that come their way on Lineworker Appreciation Day.

On April 12, and any time you see a lineworker, I hope you’ll join me in thanking them for their exceptional service. I also hope you’ll remember that you have a dedicated team of professionals working behind the scenes at the co-op whose commitment to service runs just as deep.



**WHEN YOU FIND YOURSELF
IN THE DARK, WE’VE GOT YOUR BACK.**

Lineworkers keep our local community safe and bright. #ThankALineworker #LineworkerAppreciationDay

5 North Depot Street, PO Box 471, Delhi, NY 13753
Phone: 607-746-2341 or 866-436-1223
Website: www.dce.coop

Fax: 607-746-7548
OUTAGES: 607-746-9283
SECURE PAYMENT BY PHONE 1-844-209-7162



OWNED BY THE PEOPLE WE SERVE



Linemen Gear Up For Safety—Coloring Contest

This coloring contest is designed to pay tribute to the men and women who keep our power on each day. We invite all children from ages 4-6 to help us “thank a lineworker” by submitting an entry. We’ll award three prizes of 1st (\$100), 2nd (\$50) and 3rd (\$25) for the three best entries.

One way we will honor our lineworkers is by teaching the next generation of lineworkers how DCEC’s staff stay safe around electricity.

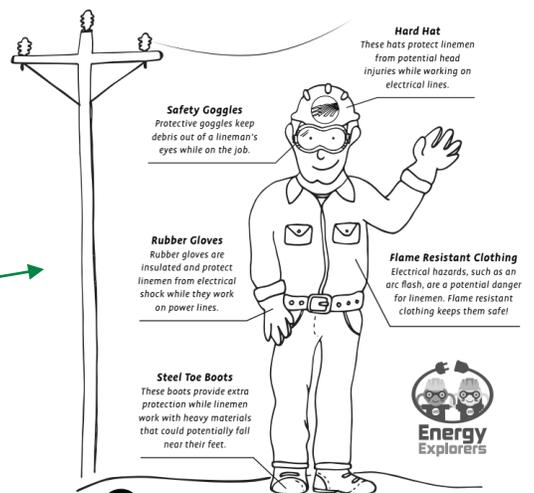
Download the Linemen Gear Up for Safety coloring sheet on our website at www.dce.coop/Gear_Up and also learn more about how to stay safe around electricity.

Entries should be turned in to our offices by Friday, April 7, 2021, or mail to:

DCEC
Attention: Alicia VanZandt
P.O. Box 471
Delhi, NY 13753

Linemen Gear Up For Safety

Did you know electric co-op linemen wear special safety gear to protect them on the job? Complete this coloring sheet and learn how they stay safe. Remember to always look up and practice safety when playing outdoors near power lines!



Hard Hat
These hats protect linemen from potential head injuries while working on electrical lines.

Safety Goggles
Protective goggles keep debris out of a lineman's eyes while on the job.

Rubber Gloves
Rubber gloves are insulated and protect linemen from electrical shock while they work on power lines.

Flame Resistant Clothing
Electrical hazards, such as an arc flash, are a potential danger for linemen. Flame resistant clothing keeps them safe!

Steel Toe Boots
These boots provide extra protection while linemen work with heavy materials that could potentially fall near their feet.



DCEC Board of Directors Appoints 2021 Nominating Committee

DCEC would like to thank the members who have volunteered to serve on this year's Nominating Committee.

MEMBER	REGION
1. John J. Lynch Jr.	Central
2. Rachel Polens	Central
3. Thomas Courtenay-Clack	Northern
4. Joseph E. Carroll	Northern
5. Robert Cairns	Southern
6. Mark Rossley	Southern

The Nominating Committee meets to identify at least two candidates to run for each seat up for election.

Rules regulating director elections are outlined in DCEC's bylaws, which are available on at www.dce.coop/content/dcec-bylaws-policies



Interested in Serving on the DCEC Board?

The governing body of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative is a member-elected Board of Directors comprised of active DCEC members who are compensated for their time. The Board is responsible for the Co-op's overall policy and direction, as well as for standards and requirements for safety, affordability, and reliability. The DCEC Board is a working board with active committees. The Board currently meets in-person once monthly, typically on the 4th Tuesday of each month. The Board also has separate committees for such matters as financials, staff and organization, and core projects.

Elections will occur at the 2021 Annual Meeting for three board seats representing the Northern, Central, and Southern Regions. Director of the Northern Region Laurie Wehmeyer, Central Region Director Steve Oles and Director of the Southern Region Jeffrey Russell.

The current Board of Directors invites any interested candidates to join a regular scheduled monthly meeting. The interested candidate can get a sense of the regular business addressed at the monthly meetings and will have the opportunity to ask any questions that they may have about serving on the Board. If you are interested in attending a Board meeting please contact the Cooperative at (607) 746-9299 prior to the meeting so we can ensure you are notified of any changes/modifications of the regular schedule.

Serving on the Board of Directors is a worthwhile and enriching experience, both personally and professionally. If you are interested in adding your name to this year's ballot, please send an email to office@dce.coop informing the Cooperative of your intent to do so. A letter of intent, along with a high resolution headshot, should be submitted by June 4, 2021.



McNeilly Moves to Line Crew

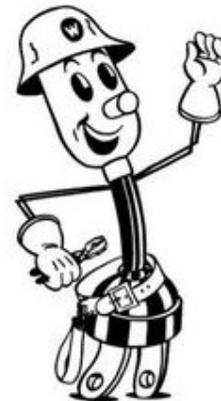
Zach McNeilly was promoted to Apprentice Lineman 1st Year.

Congratulations Zach!

DCEC Welcomes 2 New Employees

The Cooperative welcomed two new employees, both of whom came with a wealth of experience and qualifications that will help them to immediately contribute to the safe and efficient operations of the Cooperative.

Jacob Marshall was hired as an Apprentice Lineman 1st Year and David Terry hired as a Line Clearance Arborist.



Can You Help the Cooperative Locate Lost Members?

Being a member of a cooperative does have many perks. One perk is that if you were ever a member of the Cooperative you or in some cases your estate could potentially receive money from the Cooperative. A cooperative is not an investor owned utility. It's a not-for-profit member-owned utility. This means your cooperative does not earn profits in the sense other businesses do. Instead, any profits, or revenues remaining after all expenses have been paid, are returned to the members in proportion to their usage of the Co-op's services through capital credit allocations and retirements. Margins are "allocated" or assigned to members who belong to the Cooperative during a year in which there is a profit. The allocation is based on the member's proportion of revenue contribution for that year. Each member's portion is referred to as a "capital credit allocation." The cooperative is currently in a retirement cycle of approximately 27 years. Currently, capital credits that were allocated in 1993 & 1994 were just retired in December of 2020. Capital credits of a deceased member are paid to the member's estate. What happens to a member's capital credits if the member moves away from the system? A member who terminates service no longer receives additional capital credit allocations. It is the member's responsibility to notify the Co-op of any changes in address or phone number so the member can be located when it is time for the Cooperative to retire capital credits allocated to the member's account.

The following is a list of DCEC members whose capital credit checks have been returned to DCEC by the USPS due to an insufficient or outdated address. Please review the list and if you have any information that will be helpful to us in locating these members, please contact the DCEC office at (607) 746-2341 or email us at billing@dce.coop. For a complete list of Lost Members please visit our website at www.dce.coop/content/missing-members. Thank you for your assistance.

Margaret	Adam
Rita	Anilety
Jonathyn	Arlotta
Karen R.	Armstrong
Charles H.	Babcock
Gale	Baehr
Bonnie	Bailey
Randy L.	Baldwin
Sal	Battaglia
Denise M.	Brown
Brian	Burdick
Ruth I.	Bush
James R.	Cameron
Vincent	Capodici
Richard	Ciaci
Richard & Amelia	Ciesiel
Abel	Colon
Thomas P.	Connelly
Alfred & Angela	Da Costa Faro
Thomas	D'Aleo
Carol S.	Davis
Alfred S.	De Witt
Wayne E.	Decker
Darryl	DeGraff
Andrew	Dutcher
Mylz	Edwards

Norris	Finch
Tammi	Fischer
Elizabeth	Flannery
Kenneth L.	Funk
Rush	Gardner
Richard & Barbara	Gartner
Thomas E	Gleason
Joseph	Gooze
Robert	Gordon
Nelson	Gravenstede
Walter J.	Greene
Irving	Hall
Charles B.	Halley
James P.	Hamill
Gary J.	Harper
Elizabeth W.	Harrison
Thomas	Henderson

Continued on Page 5...



Lost Members Continued from Page 4...

Donald	Hessinger
Carole A.	Hollowell
Steve	Ippolito
Randall M.	Jacobson
Matthew	Jarrett
Michael D.	Jeffers
Dorothy P.	Jefferys
Eleanor	Jersey
Lawrence H.	Jones
Mary	Kenavan
Charles	Kolster
Louis W.	La Hood
Gary A.	Leichty
Cheryl A.	Lower
Peter	Maggiore
Mick	Mann
Justin & Jessica	Mc Carthy
John W.	McGowan
Jonathan & Linda	Meyerhoff
Richard L.	Miller
Nancy	Miner
Jane C.	Mohapp-Fanizza
Dean	More
Edna	Moritz
Denise	Mrozik
Ruth	Myers
Joseph M.	Orlando
Timothy J.	Pitt
Robert A.	Raimo
Evaristo	Rodriguez
Joseph P.	Santha
Dinah	Saylors
Annette M.	Scarano
Richard W.	Schmutzler
Evelyn M.	Seward
Robert J	Shaw
Leonard & Natasha	Singer
Leola A.	Sissono
Stephen A.	Smith
Ralph M.	Sommer
Lori	Soucia

Daniel C.	Stoesser
James H.	Swisher
William L.	Tait
Flora	Taylor
Richard A.	Trayford
John T.	Tully
Judith E.	Turner
Walter J.	Tweedie
Jeffrey S.	Umbach
Clare	VanEtten
Scott W.	Walton
Harriet	Washer
Harold J.	Watt, Jr.
David R.	Wingate
Northeast Wholesalers, Inc	



Call Before You Dig!

As spring time comes upon us we all have projects that we've waited all winter to get started and the spring weather excites us to get outside. Many of these projects include digging or excavating. Some may be big projects and others just simple things that really don't seem like much at all, but, regardless of what we may be digging it is very important to call 811 before we begin.

811 or Dig Safely New York as many of you know is a free service for people to call to be sure that before you begin any project that requires digging, or any type of excavation, that the area to be excavated is clear of any underground utilities. These can include electric lines, gas lines, water lines and other phone or communication cables.

It is the law to make these calls to prevent not only damage to utilities but, to also protect the public from any of the danger that can be caused by coming in contact with these types of underground facilities.

Any damage caused to any types of these facilities that have not been called in to be located will be the responsibility of those doing the excavation to pay for the repairs.

Anyone who has an underground electric service going to your home can certainly call the Delaware County Electric Cooperative to have this line located. This is a cost free service to our members and we encourage you to take advantage of this.

Feel free to call the Delaware County Electric Cooperative with any questions you have and remember, as we prepare for our upcoming projects, **before you dig call 811.**



The Tree Doctor

Again for the 2021 spray season, Delaware County Electric Cooperative will be contracting with The Tree Doctor. The Tree Doctor was founded in 1961 and has been providing tree and shrub care to their extensive client base. Based out of western New York they have developed a Vegetation Management arm responsible for the removal and management of invasive species in and along Electric Rights of Way. They will be providing this service for Delaware County Electric Cooperative this year. The Tree Doctor's crews will be applying the same herbicides that the Cooperative has applied in the past. For details about the process please visit our website at www.dce.coop/content/vegetation-management.



C&T Dispatching Service Inquiries

At the time when the DCEC office is not open for business, such as at night, over the weekend and on selected holidays, the Cooperative relies on a dispatching service to monitor the status of the electric distribution system. This dispatching service is provided to DCEC by C&T Enterprises, Inc. which is a cooperative that is located at Wysox, Pennsylvania. C&T personnel are able to monitor DCEC's outage management system ("OMS") which indicates the operating status of all of the electric service meters that are connected to the Cooperative's system. All of the Cooperative's electric service meters communicate with the OMS system using power line carrier communication technology. At the time when the power line carrier signal degrades, an outage notification is issued to the OMS system indicating the possibility of an interruption of service to a Member.

If the notification persists for at least one (1) hour, C&T personnel will telephone the affected Member to either confirm that power may have been interrupted at their location or that electric service is normal. Should it be confirmed that electric service has been interrupted, C&T will arrange to notify DCEC personnel so that appropriate steps may be taken to restore electric service. On occasion, the loss of the power line carrier signal may occur at the time when there is no interruption of electric service. However, C&T will still make the telephone inquiry to ensure that the electric service is normal. Today, we all receive telephone calls that may seem to be a nuisance or perhaps a scam. A telephone call received from C&T is not one of these.



April 12, 2021
is Co-op Lineworker Appreciation Day
Please join us in thanking our
lineworkers for all their hard work!

WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT SO DO THEY



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Delhi, NY 13753
Ph: (607) 746-2341
(866) 436-1223
Fx: (607) 746-7548
www.dce.coop

Providing our rural members with:

- ⚡ Low-cost Electricity
- ⚡ High System Reliability
- ⚡ Community/Member Service

Warranted for LIFE
Please call for availability

Your local area dealer for electric

Marathon
WATER HEATERS

Generlink Transfer Switches

available for purchase at our office

Plugs into 200 amp Meter Socket
20 ft Cord to Connect to Generator
Built in Surge Protector
Accommodates 10,000 Watt Generator



For More Information or to Confirm Compatibility Please Contact DCEC at (607) 746-2341.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Calendars Mark Your Calendars Mark Your

DCEC's Family Fun Day
Friday, August 6, 2021 @ 5 pm

DCEC's Annual Meeting
Friday, September 10, 2021 @ 4:30 pm



Is Your Location Number in This Issue?

Your service location number begins with two letters and is located on your bill next to your account number. Keep your eyes peeled for the "hidden location number" in this newsletter! If you find the number, and it is your service location you will receive a DCEC fleece sweatshirt! **Good luck!**

Attention Members—Annual Meeting Agenda

For those of you interested in adding an item on the agenda for the **Annual Meeting of Members** please review **Member Participation in Annual Meetings of Members Policy** listed on DCEC's website, www.dce.coop, under About Us > DCEC Bylaws & Policies > Public, Member & Government Relations > Member Participation in Annual Meetings of Members or call the office directly at (607) 746-2341.

Operations Update

Line crews are working on system reliability improvements all through our system adding sectionalizing capabilities to reduce outage time and speed up restorations when possible. When not working on that project, crews will be addressing pole replacements that have been identified as failures by our pole inspectors in Andes, Delhi, Kortright, Jefferson, Gilboa and Harpersfield.

Right of way crews, including contract crews from Asplundh will be trimming trees and mowing in Harpersfield, near County 29 and Harper Road.

COVID -19 DISTANCE NOTICE

Please do not approach crews working in the field at this time as we are striving to make as little contact with our members as possible. Please give our field staff a wide berth for their safety and yours.

CATSKILL HI-LINE is a Publication of the Delaware County Electric Cooperative, Inc. and is published bi-monthly for the membership. This newsletter has articles submitted by Interim CEO/General Manager Millie Faulkner, Engineering & Technology Manager Paul DeAndrea, Operations Manager Ryan Sullivan, Systems Coordinator Larry Soule, Billing Specialist Rosemary Alwine, and Administrative Assistant Alicia VanZandt.

The information contained herein is designed to promote action and discussion among members. Statements published do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Cooperative. The information has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, and the editor has exercised reasonable care to assure its accuracy.

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