

Damaged Electrical Equipment Costs Money

Whether you are driving to a ball game or headed to work, mowing the yard or plowing the field, planting trees or harvesting crops – be aware of your surroundings because damaged electrical equipment could result in a bill to you for needed for repairs.

Our equipment is designed to bring safe, reliable, affordable electric service to our members. We realize accidents happen, but the number of accidents involving electrical equipment continues to rise. Outages often occur due to the damages and affect the reliability our members have come to expect.

When farming or landscaping, take these steps to stay clear of electrical equipment:

- Always use a spotter

when operating large machinery near lines and use care when raising or lowering equipment.

- Keep equipment at least 10 feet from lines – at ALL times and in ALL directions.
- Inspect the height of farm equipment to determine clearance.
- Always lower extensions to the lowest setting when moving loads.
- Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance.
- Always be aware of electrical equipment located on your property to keep a



safe distance when working outside.

- If a power line is sagging or low, call us right away. If your equipment does hit a power line, DO NOT LEAVE THE CAB. Immediately call 9-1-1, warn others to stay away, and wait for linemen to cut the power.

SAFETY: Think About It

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DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME REMINDER

Don't forget to spring forward on March 14!
Set your clocks forward by one hour.



Three Ways to Electrify Your Lawn Care



S Spring is just around the corner, and you can practically smell the freshly-cut grass. If you're in the market to upgrade your lawn care equipment, you may want to consider electric (or battery-powered) options. Here are three ways you can electrify your lawn care this spring.

Electric Lawn Mowers

Electric lawn mowers have come a long way over the last few years. Early models required corded connections, which were tricky to manage—but the cord has been cut. Electric mowers are

suitable for most lawn care needs, with batteries that typically require about one to two hours to fully charge, and most batteries can run for a full hour. That said, if you have a large yard (half an acre or larger), a gas-powered option may be best to suit your needs.

Electric Trimmers

Cordless electric string trimmers are a great option for most lawns. Cordless electric trimmers are much quieter and easier to use, but most batteries last about 30 to 45 minutes. So, if you have a lot of space to trim, you may want to consider a back-

up battery or plan to work in short bursts.

Electric Leaf Blowers

After cutting and trimming your lawn, you'll need to clear off those

walkways and patios for the finishing touch. Cordless electric leaf blowers are lightweight and easy to maneuver, but they don't offer quite as much power as gas-powered and corded blowers. If your leaf blowing and clearing needs are minimal, a cordless electric leaf blower can get the job done.






If you're looking to electrify your lawn care equipment, be sure to do your homework. Search online for the latest reviews, and check trusted websites like ConsumerReports.org. With a little research, you'll be well on your way to Lawn of the Month – with less maintenance, hassle and noise (and your neighbors will thank you!).

REMEMBER....

Big Horn REA now offers rebates for electric/rechargeable lawn equipment! Call us to find out if your purchase qualifies

5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Always call 8-1-1 first, because you never know what's below. Here are five easy steps for safe digging:

<p>1. NOTIFY Call 8-1-1 or make a request online two to three days before you start.</p> 	<p>2. WAIT Wait two to three days for a response to your request. Affected utilities will send a locator to mark any underground utility lines.</p> 	<p>3. CONFIRM Confirm that all affected utilities have responded by comparing the markers to the list of utilities the 8-1-1 call center notified.</p> 	<p>4. RESPECT Respect the markers provided by the affected utilities. They are your guide for the duration of your project.</p> 	<p>5. DIG CAREFULLY If you can't avoid digging near the markers (within 18-24 inches on all sides, depending on state laws), consider moving your project.</p> 
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Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Don't keep your refrigerator too cold. The Department of Energy recommends a temperature setting of 35 to 38 degrees for the fresh food compartment and zero degrees for the freezer. Make sure the refrigerator doors are sealed airtight to maximize efficiency.

Source: www.energy.gov

Member Business Spotlight

Typically, we have only spotlighted one or two businesses in this section – these three businesses stories are intertwined, so we are running them all! The Jones' have done great things for the little town of Basin!



Basin Pharmacy

Craig Jones graduated from Idaho State University with a Doctor of Pharmacy. After graduation the family lived in Idaho where Craig worked for Payless Drug, Rite Aid and Walmart.

In 2001 the Jones family of 9 moved to Otto, WY to raise their children near their maternal and paternal grandparents.

Craig worked as a fill-in pharmacist for Walmart and Big Horn Drug (Ron Wendling, Greybull). Mr. Wendling opened Basin Pharmacy at 403 W C Street in Basin June 2, 2003 and Craig started working at this location.

May 2, 2005 Craig and Leslie Jones purchased Basin Pharmacy from Mr. Wendling. Craig was frustrated after working for chain pharmacies and was ready to be his own boss.

In 2010 Craig and Leslie purchased the building 403/405 W C Street and the family began construction on the unoccupied office space. Walls were torn down and carpet removed. We reused everything we could in the new construction.

In 2011 Basin Pharmacy moved into its new location at 405 W C Street. The pharmacy was able to carry a larger selection of over-the-counter items, office supplies, candy, candles, party goods and become a UPS drop-off.

Our favorite part of Basin Pharmacy is our customers! We have met so many wonderful people from several communities, we would not have known. Unfortunately, in this business, we have lost many dear friends from our years of serving our communities.



Wheeler's: Basin's Market

When the previous owners announced they were closing their doors Craig and Leslie had no intent to take on another venture. We waited, expecting someone else would purchase the business knowing how important a grocery is to a community. After many discussions regarding what would happen to Basin and how our pharmacy and café would remain sustainable without a grocery, one thing led to another and we took a BIG leap!

Not only did we purchase the grocery business, but we took on a hundred-year-old building with all of its problems! Once again, the family and Craig have spent many weekends, nights and days off working on updating flooring, repairing coolers/freezers, painting, electrical and plumbing.

August 2019, we opened our doors with a limited supply of groceries. Every week we have increased our inventory. We worked hard to get the meat department open, the liquor department and are currently working on the deli-bakery area.

Basin's Market would like to be known for its customer service, fresh produce, excellent cuts of meat and a delicious deli-bakery. Craig and Leslie are pleased when they receive good feedback from the community. That makes owning a business our favorite part.



Copper Corner Café

"Start your day proper! Join us at the Copper!" After purchasing the whole building, relocating the pharmacy, we started our next project. With the children's help we also deconstructed the old pharmacy and began construction of the café. This project took 5 years of weekends, nights and any day off Craig could get.

February 14, 2017 the Copper Corner Café opened. Our claim to fame would most definitely be our pies, sweet rolls and bread, all made on site from scratch. We have wonderful ladies that do the baking!

Owning the café has been a learning experience, as neither Leslie or Craig had ever owned or worked for a small-town café. We have many new friends and love making people smile, with happy full tummies!



A new feature for 2021 to allow you to get to know our employees just a little bit better.

Watt's Cookin'

At Big Horn REA

BILL PHILLIPS



Our mechanic Bill Phillips has worked at Big Horn REA for 26 years.

What do you bring to your co-op?

I bring 26 years of service and 31 years of mechanical knowledge to keep the fleet running to the best of my ability. Keeping the warehouse and the crews in materials they need to do their jobs. I'd like to think a good customer relationship with helping consumers that come in for their questions and materials for their own projects.

What is the best thing about working at Big Horn?

The job! I like coming to work. I

know it's weird....there are some days that I should have stayed in bed though. I get a good sense of pride knowing that for the most part the crew makes it back to the

shop and not on a tow hook. I like the fact that we are a very small co-op and care for one another, it's a good feeling.

What is your favorite meal from childhood?

Oh man, don't have just one. It's a toss-up between Mom's meat-loaf or her goulash. Great, now I'm hungry!!!

Recipe DIRECTIONS

Bill P's Sausage Stroganoff Soup

Ingredients:

1 package of Brown & Serve sausage links, cut into slices	1 can sliced and drained mushrooms (4oz)
1 garlic clove, minced	1 cup half and half
2 packages of scalloped potatoes	1 cup sour cream
3 cups water	2 tbs Dijon mustard
1 can chicken broth (14.5oz) I use more	

Directions

In a large pan cook sausage and garlic till sausage is browned. Stir in potatoes and contents of sauce packets. Add water, broth, and mushrooms. Bring to boil. Reduce heat, simmer uncovered for 14-16 minutes until potatoes are tender. Stir in sour cream, half and half and mustard. Heat through and do not boil.

HIGHLIGHTS

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For Outages or Trouble

Call the office number: **ANYTIME**
(307) 568-2419 or 1-800-564-2419

After 5 p.m., weekends and holidays all calls will be answered by our professional answering service, who will contact the appropriate person(s).

Big Horn Rural Electric Company is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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