



NorVal News

May 2023

54091 US Hwy 2 W, Glasgow
P.O. Box 951, Glasgow, MT 59230
[facebook.com/norvalelectric](https://www.facebook.com/norvalelectric)
406-228-9351
www.norval.coop

NorVal Electric Cooperative Directors

- District 1 Kevin Nelson 724-3202
District 2 Sam Gundermann 724-3405
District 3 Rick Molvig **Vice Pres** 367-5328
District 4 Chris Christensen 364-2367
District 5 Rick Stahl 367-5232
District 6 Ron Reddig **President** 392-7925
District 7 Rocky Kittleson **S/T** 367-5366

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

IRRIGATION MEMBERS

With weather conditions not being ideal in the month of April, we are still connecting irrigations. If you have any questions regarding when your irrigation will be connected or you still need to make changes to your account, please call the office.



Get Involved! Join us at the Annual Meeting.

One of our favorite events is coming up on October 24, when NorVal Electric will host our annual meeting for you, the members we proudly serve. We always look forward to this event because it's a great opportunity for our employees to talk with our members and hear what's on their minds.

We hope you'll join us for the annual meeting, which will take place at the Opheim High School. Registration begins at 4:30p.m., dinner at 5:30p.m. and a business meeting to follow at 6:30p.m.

During the annual meeting, we'll share a few brief business updates on financial reports, recent projects/investments, big wins, etc. We're going to have a lot of fun too! We'll have activities for the kids, tasty food from the local 4H Clubs and several prizes, including two cash prizes.

Spending time with you and hearing your take on our community's energy future is so important to us. In fact, it's essential because everything we do is shaped by the members of our community. As you know, the energy industry is in the midst of massive change. Consumer needs and changing technology impact nearly every aspect of how we manage and deliver energy to local homes, schools and businesses.

As we navigate major changes in the coming years, we need to hear from you and your neighbors to inform our planning as we strive to meet the long-term needs of all NorVal members.

You have a say.

You may be wondering if your opinion really makes a difference, and yes, it does! Gaining guidance and perspective from our members and board helps set priorities for the co-op and guide future decisions. At our annual meeting, we raise issues for voting consideration by the general membership (that's everyone who pays for electric service from NorVal). Annual meeting is also a time for members to vote on the co-op's board of directors.

Our board of directors is comprised of 7 members who live and work right here in our local service area, so they are in the best position to know where community investments are most needed. And by the way, we hope you'll consider running for the board in the future - we're always looking for folks who care about our community who would be willing to serve. This year we will be electing a board member for Districts 2, 4, and 7.

Your electric bill is an investment in our community.

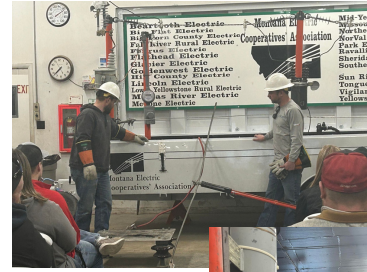
This local input means those closest to the community know its needs and priorities and help direct where co-ops dollars are spent. Every year, we invest funds to make updates to our local system, which helps maintain reliability and grid resilience. Think of it this way: every time you pay your electric bill, you're actually investing in your community because all the money we take in stays here in the local community. By making these investments in our local system, we can ensure you have reliable power for everyday life.

Most consumers likely don't equate active involvement with their electric company with helping their community. But NorVal Electric is not an ordinary utility company. We're a co-op, and our business model is meant to serve the members and the community in which it operates.

Our core purpose and mission are to provide safe, reliable and affordable power. But as a co-op, we're also motivated by service to our community, rather than profits. We hope you'll exercise the benefits of your co-op membership and join us for the annual meeting on October 24. We look forward to seeing you!

First Responder Training

On March 21, NorVal Electric and NorthWestern Energy teamed up to bring our local first responders a training on what to do when they come across a scene involving electricity. They went over how to get someone out of a vehicle that has a downed line on it, what to do when there is water involved, and what to do during a structure fire. NorVal Electric linemen, Cody and Jayson, put on a presentation using our "hot trailer." They demonstrated what enter and exit wounds might look like using a watermelon and oranges, the difference between car tires and the tires on a bicycle. We had a great turn out with participants from Glasgow/Long Run, Hinsdale, St. Marie, Nashua, and Fort Peck FD; Valley County Search and Rescue, Glasgow FMDH EMS, and Montana Highway Patrol.



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Thermostat placement can impact your HVAC system's ability to maintain an ideal indoor temperature. Thermostats should be placed in the center of the home, away from air vents, plumbing pipes and exterior doors. Avoid placing items like lamps near your thermostat, which can cause the HVAC to run longer than necessary. Avoid installing thermostats in rooms that feel warmer or colder than the rest of the home.



HAPPY
MEMORIAL DAY

NorVal Electric will be closed
Monday, May 29, in observance of
Memorial Day!



Nick's Notes By Nick Dulaney, Line Superintendent

It is definitely the calm before the storm around here lately.

The crews have been working on changing out meters in Lustre, Volt and Wolf Point. With the help from Christina and Melissa, our system is fully computerized! All of our meters now read back to the office in real time and we are able to see where issues are when it comes to outages.

Construction season is a little bit delayed this year due to the late snow fall, but we will have a busy summer with the jobs already lined up. If you have any projects in mind, please get on the list soon!



Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

Irle Elementary Comes to NorVal Electric

NorVal Electric spent time with the students from Irle Elementary School. Melissa went over what NorVal Electric is, where our power comes from and how to be safe around electricity in every day life. Our linemen, Cody Odom, Kyle Barras and Tracy Henry demonstrated what to do if the students come across a downed line and why they should never touch a line. They cut open an orange to explain what could happen to our bodies if they do come in contact with electricity. As you can see from the bottom right-hand photo, many of the students really enjoyed watching the arcs and fire from the fruit and hotdogs. We sent the students in Kindergarten through third grade home with a coloring book filled with safety tips and more information on where power comes from and the different types of power lines. The fourth and fifth graders received a book called *Wish Upon a Crawdad*. This book follows the story of a 12 year old girl and her family as they start an electric co-op in their community. We would like to say one more *huge* thank you to Ed Sugg for making this happen and to all the students and teachers that came to watch and listen to who we are and what we do every day.

