


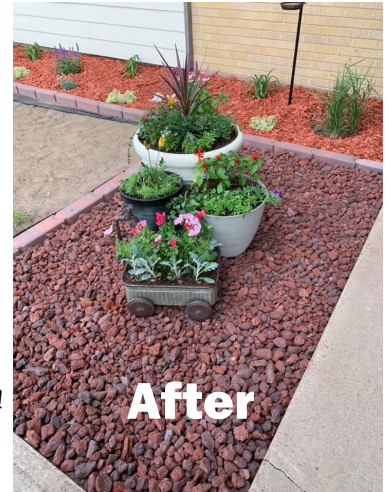
Landscaping Project Complete



Before

Thanks to the vision of some green thumbs in the office, the former shrub-laden office greenery has been replaced with some beautiful landscaping. With the helpful input from our experienced members via Facebook, we planted perennials to enjoy year after year. We thank those who contributed and made suggestions!

With the dedication of Britni Lingohr, Marie Donaldson, Nick Dulaney and Mitch Griebel and the super talented line crew, the Glasgow Office looks fantastic! Be sure to stop by and see their handy work soon! 



After

Nick's Notes

By Nick Dulaney
Line Superintendent

Happy Fourth of July! The crews continue to check items off of the to-do list. They have been installing new services in the Fort Peck, Park Grove and Hinsdale areas.

The Pliley overhead to underground single phase conversion is almost complete.

In addition, we are working on installing 7,000 feet of line to a cellphone tower North of Saco.


This is the time of year that our contractors, Electro-test will work on OCR testing in the field. Our insurers require us to test 1/5 of the total oil circuit reclosers on the system annually. In addition, Electro-test annually perform transformer checks on half of the subs, then the following year will test the other half of the substations. This is essential to ensuring that our equipment is in proper working order, and is running at peak efficiency.

Starting soon, the crews will be continuing the meter change out program in the Whatley substation area.

The crews are also changing out rotten poles in the Dead Lamb Road area, North of Nashua.

May's Safety Meeting topic was fire extinguisher and fire awareness. Each employee was tasked with putting out a controlled burn on a device with sensors in the front that were similar to a camp cook stove. The employees were tested on their knowledge of the different kinds of fires that occur and the proper type of extinguisher to fight them. While it's hard to determine how an individual will react in an emergency, by continuing to practice, educate and prepare for the unexpected, it can help you to have a plan of action when the time comes.

Finally, if you have projects that require digging, please remember to call 811 at least 48 hours before you begin. In addition, if you have a project planned that requires a line extension or service upgrade please give me a call. We will gladly go over your options that are available and help you find the best solution.

Have a safe summer! 



Left: NorVal office employees and line personnel listen to MECA Safety Loss Instructor Troy Camps discuss fire extinguisher types.

Above: Lineman Brock See extinguishes a staged fire during the May Safety Meeting.

Recipe Corner



Strawberry Sunflower Salad

Ingredients

- 2 cups sliced fresh strawberries
- 1 medium apple, diced
- 1 cup seedless green grapes, halved
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced celery
- 1/4 cup raisins
- 1/2 cup strawberry yogurt
- 2 tablespoons sunflower kernels

Directions

In a large bowl, combine strawberries, apple, grapes, celery and raisins. Stir in the yogurt. Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Add sunflower kernels and toss.



Welcome to NorVal, Kyle!

Kyle Barras joined the NorVal family in June as an Apprentice Lineman. He hails from Ontario, Oregon and graduated from Vale High School in Oregon.

In 2016, he and his wife, Hannah moved to the Glasgow/Fort Peck area. Kyle and Hannah are parents to one spunky three year old, Keely. In his spare time, he enjoys hunting and sports.

Kyle stated his favorite part of working at NorVal Electric has been the people.

Welcome to the family, Kyle!



What does it take to become a Lineman?

A thirst for the outdoors, the willingness to be in all types of weather and the desire to go where the weather takes you are just a few of the things one must possess in order to start a career in the line profession.

But, the first step in any journey is education. A prospective apprentice must complete a Pre-Apprenticeship Program through an accredited line school. They must become certified in First Aid and CPR training, receive a commercial drivers' license, and successfully complete pole-top rescue. There are months of classwork and fieldwork to complete in all types of weather.

Upon being hired by a utility, they will work towards Journeyman Lineman Certification. An apprentice will complete four years of self-study through Merchant's Powerline Job Training & Safety Program. In addition, through the State of Montana's Apprenticeship Program, they will log working hours into various categories (overhead and underground work, metering, safety meetings, record-keeping, transformers and oil circuit reclosers). Each hour is applied to the final total to receive certification and must be signed off by the employee's immediate supervisor and reviewed by the State prior to completion.

After four books are completed, as well as thousands of hours of labor, the Apprentice will receive his or her certification to become a Journeyman Lineman.



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- This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Want to light up your outdoor space without increasing your energy use? Try outdoor solar lights! They're easy to install and virtually maintenance free. Remember, solar lights work best when the solar cells receive the manufacturer's recommended hours of sunlight.

Source: energy.gov

