

Tree removal prevents blinks & outages



Dawson Public Power District crews work to clear trees throughout the year. When trees come in contact with power lines, it can cause blinking lights or outages for customers in the area. Removing the trees improves electric reliability. Dawson PPD finds that simply trimming trees is only helpful for a few months or a year. It is more cost effective to remove the entire tree to prevent problems for several years. The photographs above show the progress of a project southwest of Gothenburg in July. *Photos by Craig Wyman.*

Rebates are available for energy efficiency upgrades

Dawson PPD has a variety of incentive programs to help you make improvements to your home. See our website, dawsonpower.com or call Bernie at 308-324-2386 to learn more. Some of the programs include:

- Air to air heat pumps
- Geothermal heat pumps
- Area lighting (yard lights)
- Irrigation motor efficiency
- Attic insulation
- Refrigerator/freezer recycling

Please help us provide better service

When you call to notify Dawson PPD of an outage, please have a meter or account number available to identify your account -- especially if you have more than one service in your name. This will help our customer service personnel quickly identify the correct location and dispatch help right away.

Name	Meter Number
Joe Customer	89723
Joe Customer	89725
Joe Customer	298723
Joe Customer	08838
Joe Customer	03827
Joe Customer	92837
Joe Customer	30893

Which account would you choose? When a customer with multiple accounts reports an outage it can be difficult to determine where the linemen need to be dispatched. Having your meter number available will speed up our response time.

Special service available for rental property owners

Dawson PPD works with the owners of rental property to make sure the power is not disconnected. An owner's application for service transfers the electric account into the owner's name if a renter moves or is disconnected for non-payment.

Having an owner's application on file does not make the property owner responsible for their renter's bills. A letter is sent to the owner each time the account is transferred into their name. The property owner is responsible for paying for power until it is assigned to a renter or disconnected.

If the landlord sells the rental property, they need to tell Dawson PPD so the agreement can be removed.

Call 308-324-2386 or 800-752-8305 for more information about the owner's application.

Keep your eyes wide open



The recent passage of the wind-for-export legislation in Nebraska this past Unicameral has sparked renewed interest by wind developers to obtain leases on the best potential sites in the state. That means that farms and ranches in good wind areas with transmission lines in the vicinity are very desirable for development.

We can anticipate quite a number of new wind developments to begin production in the next several years. We know that developers are looking at several locations in the Dawson service area. We support the development of these projects where it makes economic sense but we also want you, our customers, to keep your eyes wide open if find yourself in lease negotiations. Here are a few things to consider. This

is not an all inclusive list but will hopefully help you protect your property interests.

- Meet with your neighbors to help determine the interest and potential impacts
 - Hire an attorney to review any lease before signing
 - Determine how much and how long will your land be tied up
 - Provisions for maintenance during operations and restoration of the site when the lease expires
 - What affect will it have on future use of the property
 - Can additional turbines be placed and what is the notification, process, compensation and location
 - What affect will a lease have on your insurance, taxes, etc.
 - How will you be paid, fixed payments, royalties or a combination of each
 - Research the company you are dealing with, are they experienced with a good reputation
 - What happens if the company goes bankrupt
- These are exciting times and this type of development poses an opportunity for additional revenue for our area. It also ties up your property for 20 to 50 years so you really need to understand all of the implications of your lease. Good luck in your negotiations!
- Until next time...
- Robert Heinz, General Manager*

Kaiser to manage operations department

Jeremy Kaiser will serve as the new Manager of Operations for Dawson PPD.

Kaiser began his career with the District in 2000 as a member of the construction crew. In 2005 he became a chief area maintenance lineman, serving customers northeast of Lexington.



Jeremy Kaiser

As manager, Kaiser supervises 42 employees. His department is responsible for building and maintaining the power lines and facilities that serve customer's homes, irrigation wells and businesses.

Jeremy and his wife, Tess, live in Lexington with their three children.

Dawson PPD names first safety director

Safety is the highest priority at a public power district. As Dawson PPD has grown and industry regulations have increased, so has the need for a full-time employee to ensure compliance.

Journeyman lineman Dean Kunkee has been chosen to be Dawson PPD's first Safety Director.

Kunkee has worked on the construction crew since 1995. He has been an active member on the safety committee and received training through the Nebraska Rural Electric Association.



Dean Kunkee

Dean and his wife, Angie, live in the Lexington area with their three sons.

Hobelman accepts staking engineer job

Jerry Hobelman has been named as the fourth member of Dawson PPD's team of staking engineers.

Staking engineers meet with customers and design new lines and services to meet their needs. They also design power line upgrades and move lines to accommodate road construction.



Jerry Hobelman

Hobelman had previously served as the construction foreman. He has been part of Dawson's construction crew for 20 years.

Jerry and his wife, Amy, live in Lexington and have two children.

Tawny's first trip to Washington, D.C.

The following story was written by Tawny Bernt of North Platte about her experiences on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. in June. She was chosen to represent Dawson PPD on the trip after winning an essay contest. The purpose of the trip is help teens learn and understand more about our nation's government. It also encourages teens to become advocates for public power and be pro-active citizens.



For a whole year now I've been telling my friends that Youth Energy Camp was the best thing that happened to me last summer. What I didn't know was that I was going to get to do something even better as a result of attending Youth Energy Camp.

At the beginning of the year I got a letter from Dawson Public Power District telling me that I could write an essay for a contest, of which the winner would go on the trip to Washington, D.C. I was eligible to participate because I attended Youth Energy Camp. I won the contest by writing about what my grandma's life was like before having electricity, and how it changed after getting a wind charger.

The week spent in Washington, D.C., Crystal City, VA, Gettysburg, PA, and everywhere else we went was one of my busiest ever. Dawson sent me on my first plane ride, which I was very nervous about. I did have to hold hands during takeoff, but our chaperones, Kristen Gottschalk and James Dukesherer, made me feel at ease and it was a lot of fun.

Each day we woke up early and got right into our sight-seeing and learning about our country. One evening while walking by The

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Top: Tawny Bernt is all smiles as the plane departs for Washington, D.C. This was her first flight in a commercial plane.

Middle: George Washington's estate, Mt. Vernon, was one of Bernt's favorite places to visit on the Youth Tour. She is pictured at the right of the group.

Right: The Nebraska delegation stops for a picture in front of the White House. Tawny Bernt of North Platte is on the right side of the front row. Marshall Dorr of North Platte is pictured in the middle of the back row. Dorr won his Youth Tour trip at the 2009 Youth Energy Camp.



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White House, we were surprised by unexpectedly running into Representative Adrian Smith out on his bike ride!

I think I learned the most during our visit to Mount Vernon. The lives of our presidents became very real to me when I was walking around the same house that our first president had lived in. I had always thought Mount Vernon was a house; I was so wrong! It's a huge estate with 30 acres of grounds and many buildings.

The most memorable thing for me during this trip was when we went to the Holocaust Museum. It was so emotionally touching and moving, and I learned a lot and will never forget the experience.

My favorite part of the trip was every evening, when we would go out and see the monuments. It's breathtaking to see them in the dim light and after sunset when they're all lit up. The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and the Lincoln Memorial were my favorites.

On our day on Capitol Hill, we sat down and visited with our Senators and Representatives. We got to talk to them about the EPA and the Clean Air Act concerning the regulation of greenhouse gases from power plants, and it's potential to significantly increase our electric bills. It felt good to be involved and know what was going on.

By the end of the week our group of fourteen kids and two chaperones were like a family. We always stuck together and made sure no one was left behind. We learned so much and saw so many amazing things. I want to thank Dawson Public Power District for giving me the opportunity of a lifetime by sending me to see the capitol of our great country. I would like to thank my grandma for the wonderful stories she told me about her childhood that helped me win the contest, and I would also like to thank Kristen Gottschalk and James Dukesherer for making the trip possible, fun, and safe. I will not soon forget all of my new friends and memories from this trip of a lifetime!



The Youth Tour group was able to attend an evening Marine Corp Drill performance.

Youth Tour is a great opportunity to make memories and friends. Tawny (pictured right) toured the Jefferson Memorial with Dina Morales and Linda Long.



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