

# News letter

July 2018



## Unplanned Power Outages

High winds and heavy storms can cause serious damage to powerlines and the electrical grid, which could result in unexpected power disruptions for an extended number of hours.

When an unexpected power outage strikes, the Rocky REA initiates a goal-oriented strategy to diagnose problematic areas and establish whether these outages are isolated or connected. We then map out the most efficient path that minimizes travel time between sites and systematically dispatch linemen. In this way, the maximum amount of outages are resolved within the shortest possible time frame.

## What Can Members Do To Help During an Outage?

In the event of a power outage there are a number of things you can do. First, check the breaker on your pole and the breaker in your house. If you have blown a fuse or tripped a breaker, one or more of the switches may be turned off. Simply turn it back on and power should be restored. Secondly, if it is not a fuse or a breaker, check with your neighbours to see whether their power is off as well.

If the power is still out in your surrounding area, please call us at 310-POWR (7697) - this number is staffed 24 hours a day. We will ask for your Legal Land Description (under 'service address' at the top of your bill) when you call. Any details you can provide on visible infrastructural damage to the lines are most helpful. For updates on the progress of large power outages, visit our Facebook page at: [www.facebook.com/rearocky](http://www.facebook.com/rearocky).

**The Rocky REA office will be closed on Monday August 6, 2018 for Heritage Day.**

## Power Outages and Trees—A Growing Threat

A large number of power outages are caused by trees falling on, or growing into power lines. Not only do these events cause our members to be without power, this may result in a loss of water supply, potential loss of food requiring refrigeration, increased medical risks, and risks to livestock. There is also a very real threat of personal injury or death from electrocution once a tree has made contact with a high voltage line. Finally, the cost of removing trees from lines and re-establishing power to the members is very dangerous and expensive work.

**So, what can be done to prevent the above problems?** In a perfect world, the elimination of trees under or near power lines eliminates the threats. The Rocky REA administers a vegetation management plan with the goal of removing all trees under or near power lines.

Please contact us at 310-**POWR** (7697) to arrange for an assessment of the vegetation on your property.

## Pole Testing

Genics, on behalf of the Rocky REA, will be performing routine pole testing, which may require access to your property over the next few weeks. This is a part of our commitment to our safe and economical pole maintenance program. We appreciate your continued co-operation as we make improvements to the REA system.

## Rocky REA in the Community

Rocky REA participated in the Rocky Rodeo Parade on June 9th; thank you to all who came out!



## Last Call for Rocky REA Scholarship Program

The application deadline for the 2018 Rocky REA Scholarship Program is August 1, 2018. To learn more about the Scholarship Program, the application process, or to get an application, please visit our webpage: [www.rockyrea.com/community/scholarships](http://www.rockyrea.com/community/scholarships) or contact the office at 310-**POWR** (7697).



### Contact Rocky REA and Computer Services:

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