

It Take Two . . .

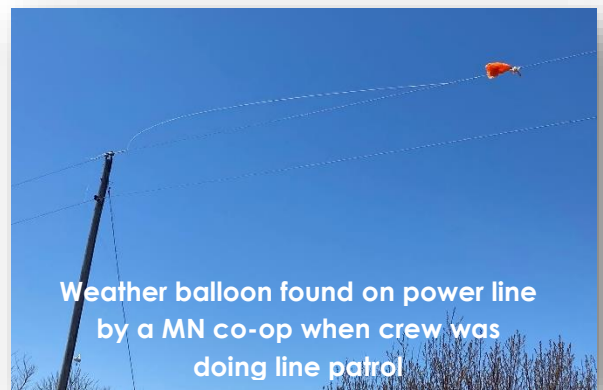
How many things can you think of that take two people to do safely and efficiently? Well, how about riding a two-person bicycle, going up and down on a teeter-totter, getting a decent picture taken, water skiing, singing a duet, or getting electricity. *Wait, what does electricity have to do with two people?*

Good! I have you thinking. Providing power to many homes, farms and businesses DOES take two people (or groups) and yet, you probably never thought of it that way. The first group, of course, is the cooperative that works to bring you power, sometimes even at night. With technology, the cooperative has been able to improve its reliability and service so you have safe and efficient power. Your air conditioner can cool your home and your oven can bake your cookies (and that is why we love our electricity). So, who is the other person?

It's YOU! Having power to your home, farm or business does take TWO! We rely on you to respect electricity so we can work together to eliminate outages and, more importantly, keep you from contacting electricity through a downed line, etc. What do we want you to do?

Overhead

- Look up for overhead lines before moving machinery, using a ladder.
- Don't place equipment or trampolines under power lines.
- Report if a tree is getting into the lines and needs to be trimmed
- Don't remove anything from the power line, like a kite or a weather balloon. Call the co-op.
- If you hit a pole and your vehicle or equipment has a power line on it, stay in your vehicle. Getting out could kill you. [If your vehicle catches on fire and you must leave, there is a safe way to get out but it is better to stay put if you can.]
- Stay away from downed power lines – they could still be energized or reset and then become energized.



Underground

- Always call 811 before you dig and have the lines marked.
- Pay attention to your "green" cabinets in the yard and don't block access to them. The co-op employees need to be able to find them, inspect them and work in them from time to time.

In the Water

- NEVER swim near a marina or near a boat while its running. Docks and boats carry sources of electricity. Faulty wiring or the use of damaged electrical cords and other devices can cause the surrounding water to become energized. (from ESFI.org)
- Watch for overhead power lines even when on the water when operating sail boats, etc.

Yes, it does take TWO to keep the power safe – that's your electric cooperative and YOU!