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Tip of the Month

April is National Safe Digging Month. Before you dig, call 811 or visit va811.com to have underground utility lines marked. This is a FREE service that helps keep you, your family, and your community safe.

What's Current

APRIL 2024

TAKING TIME TO THANK ALL OF AMERICA'S LINEWORKERS

by NOVEC President and CEO Dave Schleicher

After a hurricane, a flood, a fire, or any other disaster, first responders are the men and women who go into harm's way. They are in the thick of it, courageously facing the elements. Lineworkers are NOVEC's first responders, and every April, we join all Americans in honoring lineworkers for bravery and determination to rebuild what has been destroyed, and to help restore the electricity that is essential to much of our daily lives.

Lineworkers, like first responders, are among the initial witnesses to the damage Mother Nature can cause. There is a camaraderie among lineworkers, and cooperatives have a proud history of sending their crews to help lineworkers in other communities when the need arises.

Their jobs, however, are equally as important on days when the call to action is not quite so dramatic. At NOVEC, our lineworkers are in your neighborhoods every day strengthening the Co-op's infrastructure and proactively enhancing the reliability of your electric service. I've seen NOVEC's

crews in action, and it's clear why becoming a lineworker takes years of training and a special sense of dedication.

Many lineworkers, both at NOVEC and throughout America, will tell you what they do is so much more than a job. It's a calling that demands physical strength, ingenuity, professionalism, intelligence, and a never-ending commitment to safety. Working around electricity is dangerous, and lineworkers take every precaution to protect themselves, the people they work side by side with, and the customers they serve.

What lineworkers do for a living makes it possible for all of us to do what WE do for a living. If you see a NOVEC lineworker this month, or any time of year, please consider saying "thank you." And on behalf of everyone at NOVEC, I'd like to thank lineworkers across the country.

We appreciate you, and we're proud of you. Stay safe out there.



NOVEC Line Technician Danny Williams climbs a pole during a training seminar in January 2024.

YOU HAVE THE POWER TO SAVE

Take charge of your spring energy bills with these simple actions:

- ✓ Adjust ceiling fans to rotate counterclockwise.
- ✓ Install a programmable thermostat.
- ✓ Schedule a professional technician to service your HVAC system.
- ✓ Set your water heater to 120 degrees.

Saving energy means saving money.
Harness your savings power today!

Find more tips and tools at novec.com/save.



NOVEC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



EARTH DAY APRIL 22ND

Give your car a break and try out some two-wheeled transportation. If you need a little extra oomph, electric bikes might be a good option.

From eco-friendly vehicles to energy-efficient buildings, NOVEC strives to protect the environment by increasing the efficiency of its day-to-day operations.

YOUTH WRITING CONTEST

Make Electricity the Hero of the Story

Students, crank up your imagination along with your keyboard!

NOVEC is sponsoring a creative writing contest for children aged 5 to 16 who have a parent or guardian living in a home that receives electricity from the Cooperative.

Children can submit an original, fictional story of no more than 500 words where electricity is the “hero” of the story.

The deadline is 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 15; there is a limit of one submission per person.

Prizes will be awarded to the best story by a student:

- 5-9 years old
- 10-13 years old
- 14-16 years old

Portions of the winning stories will be featured in an issue of the *Cooperative Living* magazine. With entries, please include: the authors name, age, hometown, school, grade in school, and a sentence about how the child feels about writing stories.

MAIL ENTRIES TO: Writing Contest, NOVEC Public Relations, P.O. Box 2710, Manassas, VA 20108, or email communications@novec.com.