

CURRENTS

JNEC's April 2022 Newsletter



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THE POWER BEHIND YOUR POWER LINEWORKER APPRECIATION DAY IS APRIL 11.

You've likely noticed Jasper-Newton Electric Cooperative's crews out and about, working on power lines and other electrical equipment in our community. It's no secret that a lineworker's job is tough—but it's a job that's essential and must be done, often in challenging conditions. This month, as we celebrate Lineworker's, I thought I'd share some interesting facts about electric lineworkers with you.

The work can be heavy, in more ways than one. Did you know the equipment and tools that a lineworker carries while climbing a utility pole can weigh up to 50 pounds? That's the same as carrying six gallons of water. Speaking of utility poles, lineworkers are required to climb poles ranging anywhere from 30 to 120 feet tall. Needless to say, if you have a fear of heights, this likely isn't the career path for you.

Lineworkers must be committed to their career—because it's not just a job, it's a lifestyle. The long hours and ever-present danger can truly take a toll. In fact, being a lineworker is listed in the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the U.S.

Lineworkers often work non-traditional hours, outdoors in difficult conditions. While the job does not require a college degree, it does require technical skills, years of training and hands-on learning. Did you know that to become a journeyman lineworker can take more than 7,000 hours of training (or about four years)? That's because working with high-voltage equipment requires specialized skills, experience and an ongoing mental toughness. Shortcuts are not an option, and there is no room for error in this line of work.

Despite the many challenges, Jasper-Newton EC's lineworkers are committed to powering our local community. During severe weather events that bring major power outages, lineworkers are among the first ones called. They must be ready to leave the comfort of their home and families unexpectedly, and they don't return until the job is done, often days later. That's why the lineworker's family is also dedicated to service. They understand the importance of the job to the community.

Today's lineworkers are information experts who can pinpoint power outages from miles away. Line crews now use laptops, tablets, drones and other technologies to map outages, survey damage and troubleshoot problems.

Being a lineworker may not seem like a glamorous job, but it is absolutely essential to the life of our community. Without the exceptional dedication and commitment of these hardworking men and women, we simply would not have the reliable electricity that we need for everyday life.

So, the next time you see a lineworker, please thank them for the work they do to keep power flowing, regardless of the time of day or weather conditions. After all, lineworkers are the power behind your power. Please join us as we recognize them on April 11, and follow “#ThankALineworker” on social media to see how others are recognizing lineworkers.

JNEC
JASPER-NEWTON ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

**CONDUCT
BUSINESS ON
YOUR SCHEDULE,
24 HOURS A DAY.
THIS SERVICE IS
FAST, CONVENIENT
AND SECURE.**

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Utility Assistance Programs

Sometimes people need a helping hand. For those members who qualify, special utility assistance programs are available. Thousands of dollars have been designated for distribution in our area.

Listed below are the Utility Assistance Providers in our area. Please contact these providers directly to determine if you need and qualify for assistance on your electric bill.

Areas serviced are listed below the organization

Catholic Charities of Southeast TX

(JNEC Service Area)
(409)924-4400

Greater East Texas Community Action

Serves: Orange County
(936)564-2491

Salvation Army

(JNEC Service Area)
(409)622-7664

SETRPC

(Orange County)
(409)899-8444

Jasper Share

(Jasper County)
(409)384-9910

DETCOG

(JNEC Service Area)
(936)634-2247

Programs for Human Svc

(Orange County)
(409)886-4338

Tri-County Community Action

(Serves: Jasper, Newton, Sabine Counties)
(409)283-7867

JNECO Share

must be 62yrs+
(JNEC Service Area)
(409)423-2241

The Helping Place

(Jasper County)
(409)994-2247

Deep East Texas Foundation

(Jasper County)
(409)383-0334

Kirbyville Christian Outreach

(Kirbyville Residents)
(409)423-2569

Friends Helping Friends

(Orange County)
(409)882-9717

Programs for Human Services

(Orange County)
(409)886-0125



If your contact information has changed, please contact JNEC at (409) 423-2241 or 1-800-231-9340, to update your information.