



A family looks on as HPC lineman Jackson Rice wires a light, helping prepare their home for electricity to be turned on in their rural mountain community.

Look Up & Look Out For Power Lines

Harvest season brings long days, busy fields and plenty of large equipment. As you move combines, grain carts, augers and other equipment around the farm, take a moment to look up and look out for overhead power lines.

Before entering a field or moving equipment, identify nearby power lines and plan a route that keeps equipment safely away from them. Use a spotter when needed, and make sure seasonal employees and helpers know where potential electrical hazards are located.

If equipment contacts a power line, stay in the vehicle and call 911. **Do not get out unless there is an immediate emergency, such as a fire. If you must exit, jump clear without touching the equipment and ground at the same time, then shuffle away with small steps.** Never return to or touch equipment that has contacted a power line until the utility confirms it is safe.

A few extra seconds to look up and plan ahead can help prevent a serious electrical accident. This harvest season, make electrical safety part of every trip through the field.

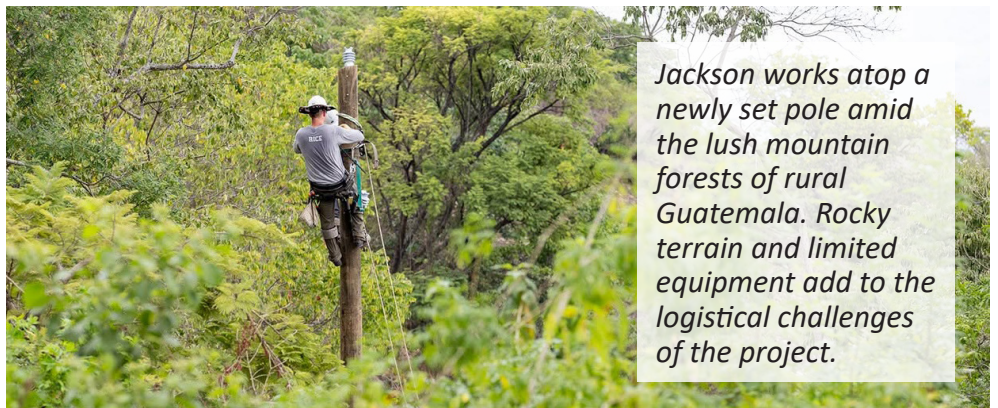
Cooperative Spirit at Work

HPC lineman Jackson Rice joins an international effort to electrify communities in rural Guatemala.

Heartland Power lineman Jackson Rice recently spent time in Guatemala as part of an international electrification project bringing electricity to rural communities for the first time. Jackson joined 17 other electric cooperative linemen from Iowa, Colorado and Oklahoma for the three-week project.

The team worked in the rural mountain villages of Montenegro and El Estucal, where they built out electric infrastructure and wired at least 80 homes, along with an elementary school and health center, to connect to the electric grid. The team also took on a community service project to help improve the school kitchen.

We're proud to see Jackson put his skills to work helping bring the benefits of safe, reliable electricity to families and communities around the world. Watch our December newsletter for a full recap of Jackson's experience and the impact of his work in Guatemala.



Jackson works atop a newly set pole amid the lush mountain forests of rural Guatemala. Rocky terrain and limited equipment add to the logistical challenges of the project.



Providing members with safe, reliable, affordable electricity and enhancing the quality of life for members and their local communities.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Office Hours 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. M-Th
Office: 641.584.2251
Toll Free: 800.349.2832

Thompson 11464 Hwy 9 | P.O. Box 65
Thompson, IA 50478

St. Ansgar 110 Industrial Park Dr. | P.O. Box 70
St. Ansgar, IA 50472

Outage Reporting Thompson: 641.584.2200
St. Ansgar: 641.713.4646
System Wide: 888.417.3007

Secure Payment Phone Line 855.939.3777
Digging & Line Location Call 811

Website www.heartlandpower.com
Email energy@heartlandpower.com
Facebook facebook.com/heartlandpower
Twitter twitter.com/heartland_power
Instagram instagram.com/heartland_power

CEO/GENERAL MANAGER Jon Leerar

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Don Knudtson, *President* 641.590.1416
Mark Kingland, *Vice-President*
& *DPC Director* 641.590.4400
Vince Morische, *Secretary* 641.220.4841
Tricia Jaeger, *Treasurer* 641.330.6903
Michael Cole
Asst. Secretary-Treasurer 641.512.1474
Roger Solomonson, *Director* 641.590.0049
Steve Groth, *Director* 641.590.2581

MONTHLY QUIZ

\$25 BILL CREDIT WINNER

Wade Childs, Charles City

THIS MONTH'S QUESTION

Should you exit a vehicle that is in contact with a power line?

QUIZ GUIDELINES

Each member who sends in the correct answer by the 20th of the month will be entered in a drawing for a \$25 bill credit. Mail or email quiz answers to energy@heartlandpower.com.

Hands-On Safety Demonstrations

Nearly 160 fourth graders from Lake Mills, Forest City and North Iowa Community School Districts gathered at the Winnebago County Fairgrounds in Thompson this September for the annual Winnebago County Farm Bureau Ag/Safety Fair. Throughout the morning, students rotated through 19 hands-on stations, including an electrical safety demonstration led by Heartland Power Manager of IT & Member Services Representative Jordan Lee.

Farm Safety Days and other school events are important opportunities to connect with the next generation and share information that can help keep them safe. The message of electrical safety may be a long-standing one, but every year, there are young ears hearing it for the first time. We're grateful to be a resource for all things electricity and to help the communities we serve stay safe, informed and connected.



Pictured Above: HPC Member Services Representative Jordan Lee leads a safety demonstration for area youth.

Warmth Without the Extra Wattage Space Heaters vs. Electric Blankets

As October nights turn chilly, it is tempting to reach for a portable space heater to ward off the cold. Before you plug one in, it pays to understand the hidden energy cost on your monthly bill.

A standard plug-in space heater typically pulls around 1,500 watts of power. If you run one for eight hours a night while sleeping, it can add significant dollars to your power bill by the end of the month.

An electric blanket, on the other hand, operates using a fraction of that energy.

Most modern electric heating blankets draw only 50 to 200 watts, depending on the size. By heating your bed directly rather than attempting to warm the air in an entire room, you get the same cozy comfort while using roughly 90% less electricity.

If you do choose to use a space heater, always follow fundamental electrical safety rules. Plug space heaters directly into a wall outlet rather than an extension cord or power strip, which can overheat under heavy electrical loads. Turn them off whenever you leave the room or go to sleep.

