

REMEMBER TO THANK A LINEWORKER THIS APRIL

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) designates National Lineworker Appreciation Day as the second Monday in April. This April 12, 2021, join NOVEC in honoring and thanking lineworkers. They work hard every day to keep power flowing, and bring lights back on when Mother Nature sends storms, snow, or ice.

Lineworkers must work around very high levels of electricity when

performing their duties, whether that's up high in a bucket truck or on the ground. Sometimes their work requires them to work in wet and windy conditions, or in the dark.

"To be a lineworker, one must have a true desire to help others when the power goes out," says Skip Hollcroft, NOVEC's construction supervisor, who oversees all NOVEC lineworkers. "During a storm when most people are staying home, workers are often heading out to work to restore power — rain or shine, day or night."

To thank a NOVEC lineworker, please share your comments with us at communications@novec.com or show your support on NOVEC's social media with #ThankALineworker on April 12.



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SPRING SAFETY WITH OUTDOOR CHORES

As the weather warms up, many people will begin outdoor spring chores that require electricity and power tools. Stay safe by following these tips:

- Inspect power tools and appliances for frayed cords, broken plugs and cracked or broken housing before use.
- Avoid damp conditions including wet grass — when using tools that require electricity.
- Always wear personal protective equipment when using power tools.
 This includes safety goggles, hearing protection, dust masks, and gloves.
- Keep all ladders at least 10 ft. away from overhead powerlines.
- Use extreme caution when cutting or drilling into walls where electrical wires or water pipes could accidentally be damaged.
- Unplug outdoor tools and appliances when not in use.

Source: Electrical Safety Foundation International





PLANT TREES TO SAVE ENERGY – BUT CALL 811 FIRST

Spring is approaching fast, and it's a great time to do some landscaping around your home. Planting trees that provide shade on the sunny side of your home can block the sun's rays from heating up your living space in the summer. In the winter, when those trees lose their leaves, the sun's light and heat can pass through the branches into your home.

Before you grab a shovel, or start a major construction project — including building a deck or patio, or installing a fence — call 811 or fill out a Virginia 811 request online.

After you call, the center will notify the utility companies that serve you, including NOVEC. The utilities will send locators to your property to mark underground lines, pipes, and cables so you can safely dig at least 5 ft. away from them.

For more information, visit <u>call811.com</u> or <u>missutilityofvirginia.com</u>.

