



September 2023

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY TIPS

One of the signs that summer is coming to an end is when kids return to school. While kids may dread it, and parents may be rejoicing, the start of a new school year also brings back dangers that motorists need to be aware of. These dangers focus on school buses being back on the road.

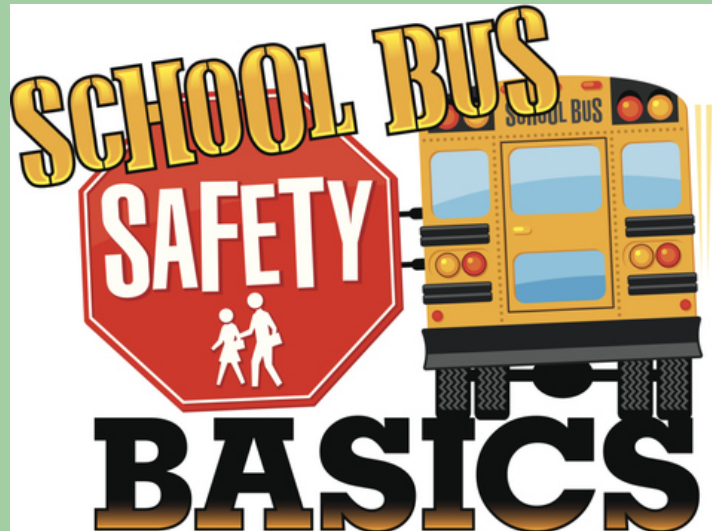
For parents, it is important to talk with your child, or children, about bus safety. Here are some tips:

Before the Bus Arrives

Your child should arrive at the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus arrives. Ahead of the new school year, visit the bus stop and show your child where to wait for the bus, at least 10 feet — five giant steps — away from the curb. Remind your child that the bus stop is not a place to run or play.

Getting On and Off Safely

When the school bus arrives, your child should wait until the bus comes to a complete stop, the door opens, and the driver says it's okay to get on or off. Your child should use the handrails to avoid falling.



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INSTALLATION OF NEW METER SYSTEM HAS BEGUN

The installation of a new meter system for Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative (CWECC) started in August, when new meters began to be installed as part of a pilot program of 178 meters in the area of the Iola substation. Once installed and operational, information from the meters can be transmitted to the CWECC office and downloaded. Residential meters can be read every hour, while commercial meters can be read every 15 minutes.



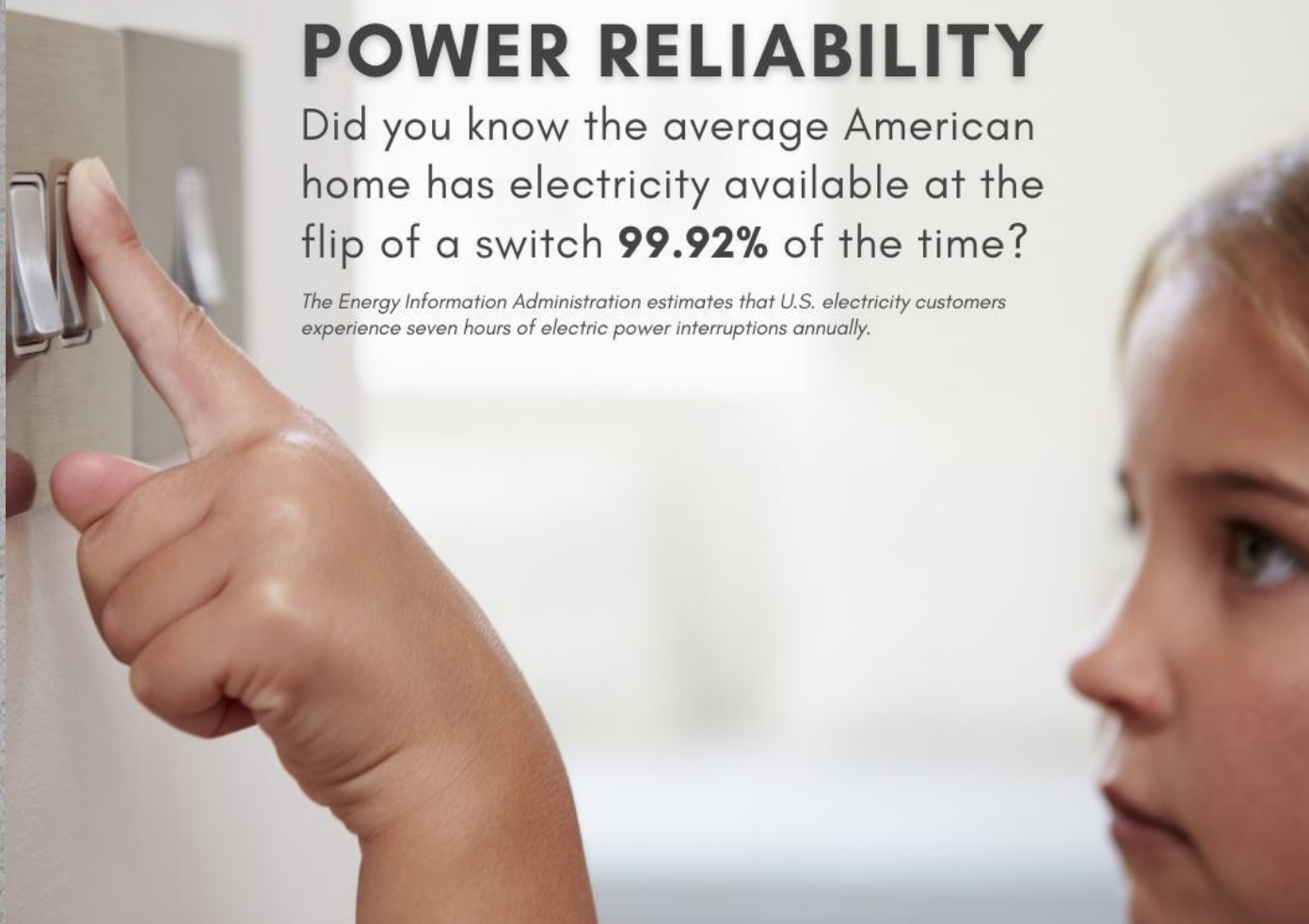
CWECC has contracted with Allegiant Utility Services to swap out the old meters with the new meters. When the technician from Allegiant arrives at a property to install the new meter, he will knock on the door of the residence to inform the resident he is there to install the new meter. He will also give the resident a door hanger notifying them that the new meter has been installed. The only disruption to power should be a "blink" when the old meter is switched to the new meter.

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POWER RELIABILITY

Did you know the average American home has electricity available at the flip of a switch **99.92%** of the time?

The Energy Information Administration estimates that U.S. electricity customers experience seven hours of electric power interruptions annually.



2023 MEMBER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative (CWEC) will host its Member Appreciation Breakfast at its headquarters in Rosholt on Saturday, Oct. 28 as a way to show its appreciation to its members. The breakfast is scheduled to take place from 8-11 a.m.

In addition to a pancake breakfast, the following will be available at the event:

- Door Prizes
- Kids Costume Contest (Judging at 9:45 a.m.)
- Halloween Treat Bag for Kids
- Kids Bike Drawing at 10 a.m.
- Bounce House
- Hotline Demonstrations
- Craft & Gift Fair featuring local vendors
- Free Blood Pressure Screening provided by Rural Health Initiative staff



FOR MORE INFORMATION

STAY FOCUSED ON SAFETY DURING HARVEST SEASON

It's right around the corner – harvest season. The time of the year that can be an exciting and exhausting time, the culmination of a season of hard work. However, the rush to harvest can also yield tragic outcomes. Each year, dozens of farm workers are killed and hundreds are injured in accidents involving power lines and electrical equipment.

Putting safety first requires alertness, focus and knowledge of potential hazards and safety steps. Regardless of the technology used on the farm, keep the following electrical safety guidelines in mind:

- Use a spotter when operating large machinery near power lines. Do not let the spotter touch the machinery while it is being moved anywhere near power lines.
- Keep equipment at least 10 feet from power lines – above, below and to the side – a 360-degree rule.
- Look up and use care when moving any equipment such as extending augers or raising the bed of grain trucks around power lines.



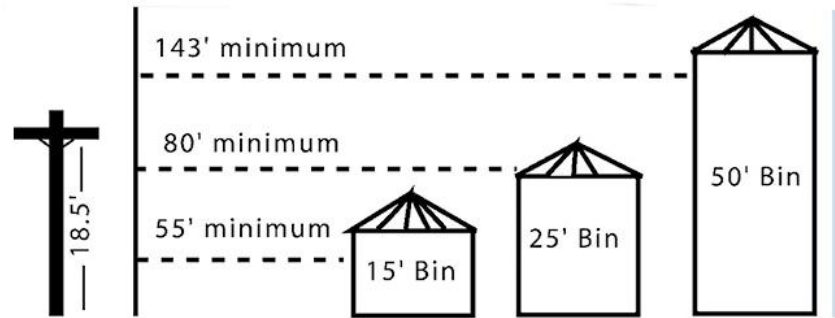
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GRAIN BINS - HARVESTING SAFELY

At Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative safety is a top priority for all – our employees and our members.

Farmers work hard to get the job done, and sometimes it's easy to forget all the necessary steps to take when practicing safe

operations. Safety regulations should always be considered when working around grain bins.



Whether you're purchasing new grain bins or remodeling areas that contain existing ones, proximity to overhead power lines must be a considered factor. The National Electrical Safety Code requires an 18-foot minimum clearance from the highest point of the filling port of the grain bin to nearby high-voltage wires and a 55-foot minimum distance from the power line to the grain bin wall. See the chart in the upper right for further guidelines. Changes to landscaping and drainage work can affect clearance heights of power lines, so please remember to check these measurements regularly.

Before moving or building a grain bin, please contact the co-op so we may help you determine a safe clearance envelope between the bin and power lines.

WISCONSIN TERRITORIES FARM MARKET OFFERS A VARIETY OF ITEMS

When Darryl Schulist and his wife, Christina, and Nick Schulist and his wife, Payton, purchased Wisconsin Territories Farm Market in Rosholt a couple of years ago, they knew they would have to make changes to the business. But being customers of the business prior to purchasing it, they wanted to make sure the business survived into the future, which is ultimately what pushed them to purchase the business.



"We've been coming here for years, and we didn't want to see it go down," Nick Schulist said.

During the first year, they ran the business with the help of the previous owner. Last winter they made major changes to the business. The entire inside of the building was remodeled, including the addition of insulation and a fresh produce cooler. The greenhouses were redone, with an automatic watering system added. Raised garden beds were also added.

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Options

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Thinking about
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Community
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