



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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**LANE-SCOTT  
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**

# Connections

## Lane-Scott Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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### In Case of an Outage

If your electricity is off for more than a few minutes, call 800-407-2217. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. After-hours calls will be answered by the dispatch and standby personnel.

### 24-hour Electrician Service

If you are without electricity or have an electrical emergency on your side of the meter, we have a master electrician on staff available 24 hours a day.

## Lane-Scott Linemen Perform Pole Top Rescues

Every year, linemen practice the technique of rescuing a disabled person from atop a pole.

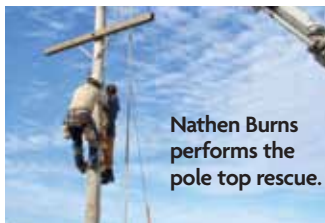
Recently Lane-Scott Electric linemen ventured to the fairgrounds to practice this annual event.

A life-size dummy is attached to a pole and the lineman must climb the pole with only his usual tools and a hand line and lower the 175-pound mannequin to the ground safely.

Our linemen hope that they never have to use this skill, but it is good to know that their fellow workers have the ability to get them down if something were to happen.



Ben Mann tries his hand at the rescue.



Nathen Burns performs the pole top rescue.



Henry Morrow rescues the 175-pound mannequin.



Lane-Scott linemen listen to a safety briefing.

## Linemen Deliver Safety Message at State Fair

Lane-Scott linemen **BEN MANN** and **MARK LEWIS** volunteered at the Kansas State Fair starting each day with a grapefruit, but it wasn't part of breakfast.

As part of the Kansas electric cooperatives' High Voltage Line Safety Demonstration,

the linemen ran 7,200 volts of electricity (standard line voltage) through a makeshift dummy with a grapefruit for a brain and a hot dog for a heart. After some fireworks, the electrocuted grapefruit fell to the ground and a volunteer lineman cut it in half to show the crowd of fair-goers its burned insides.

The goal of the demonstration was to teach people about safety around high voltage electricity. Linemen displayed proper safety procedures around power lines, showed visitors the protective gear they wear and explained how and why it is used. The exhibition gave people a visual of the effects high voltage has on tissue.

"Unfortunately, most people get electrocuted because they do things that aren't always the smartest things to do. We use our dummy to demonstrate that," said Brian Drieling, Midwest Energy's manager of electric services.

The demonstration, which included brief flames and arcs that could jump four to seven feet, was



Cooperative linemen from Midwest, Sedgwick County, Lane-Scott, Butler and Wheatland volunteered at this year's fair.

effective at catching fair-goers' attention.

The demonstration was a part of the "Kansas' Largest Classroom" program, which combines classroom learning with a fieldtrip to the fair. Teachers who planned on bringing their students to the fair could go online to find a lesson plan that covered the basics of electricity, a simple way to incorporate themes from the demonstration into the classroom.

Kansas Electric Cooperatives, Inc. and the Touchstone Energy Cooperatives of Kansas co-sponsored the demonstration, which has been running for five years. Midwest Energy has been running the safety demonstration locally for more than 15 years. It is part of their larger public education program that promotes safety around electricity and educates around 10,000 people a year.

A grapefruit a day might not be what keeps the doctor away, but with the High Voltage Line Safety Demonstration, it might keep people safe around power lines.

## Attaching Objects to Poles Puts Lives on the Line

What do yard sale signs, basketball hoops, deer stands, satellite dishes and birdhouses have in common? They're often found illegally attached to utility poles. Safety issues caused by unapproved pole attachments place the lives of lineworkers and the public in peril.

It may seem innocent, but a small nail partially driven into a pole can pierce a lineworker's glove, stripping away critical protection from high-voltage electricity.

"Lane-Scott line crews climb utility poles at all hours of the day and night, in the worst of conditions," said Bob Venters Resale Manager. "Anything attached to utility poles can create serious hazards for our line personnel. Sharp objects like nails, tacks, staples or barbed wire can puncture rubber gloves and other safety equipment, making linemen vulnerable to electrocution."

Lane-Scott lineworkers have reported more poles used as community bulletin boards, satellite mounts and even support legs for deer stands, lights and carports. These attachments don't just put line crews at risk—anyone illegally placing these items on poles comes dangerously close to energized power lines with thousands of volts of energy pulsing overhead.

Unauthorized pole attachments violate the National Electric Safety Code. With this danger in mind, many states make it a crime to attach any unapproved item to a utility pole. Please help us keep our linemen—and our community—safe. Remove any unauthorized items attached to utility poles. Fixtures not belonging to the cooperative or another utility will be removed by Lane-Scott line personnel; the co-op is not responsible for any losses if an item is damaged or destroyed during removal.



Satellite dishes and other unauthorized attachments must be removed to protect lineworkers.

## Happy Thanksgiving!

Lane-Scott's Offices Closed

Lane-Scott wishes our members a happy Thanksgiving. Our offices will be closed November 24-25 in observance of the holiday.

