

TRIMMING FUTURE PROBLEMS

There are many ways that Arrowhead Cooperative provides you with safe, reliable electric service. One of the most common – and crucial – ways is referred to as vegetation management or right-of-way clearing.



2021 RIGHT-OF-WAY MANAGEMENT

During late winter and into early spring of 2021, Lake States Tree Service performed mechanical maintenance around the Honeymoon Trail, the Caribou Trail, and Grand Portage Reservation from Mineral Center Road west to the Reservation River on the Hwy 61 corridor. During the summer of 2021 mechanical work was performed from the Onion River Road south of Lutsen, following east to County Road 7, and inland areas between those locations including the Caribou Trail. Selective herbicide treatments were completed within the Gunflint Zone, from the Lima Grade to the end of the Gunflint Trail.

Approximately 58 miles of primary overhead powerline and 10 miles of secondary overhead powerline were mechanically cleared and maintained during the 2021 maintenance period. Selective herbicide treatments were conducted on approximately 14.5 miles of primary overhead powerline.

THE EQUIPMENT

We often get questions about how clearing takes place. There are a few different types of machines that are utilized during mechanical clearing to meet our objectives. There are three different sized “mowers” working on our powerlines, from small skid steers to a large excavator equipped with a brush mulching head, commonly known as a fecon head. Another piece of equipment used is called Jarraffs. These machines have long-extending booms with a brush saw attached to the ends. They are mounted on a frame with four tires, and either have an operator sitting in a cab mounted on the machine, or the operator follows behind with a wireless controller. Bucket trucks, pole saw trimmers, and chainsaws are also a few of the other tools used for the maintenance of our right-of-ways.

Herbicide spraying is accomplished with an all-terrain vehicle with a large tank attached to the back, equipped with a 300-foot hose and sprayer. Our herbicide work was completed by State of MN herbicide licensed contractors from Lake States Tree Service.



LOOKING AHEAD

As we wrap up the 2021 right-of-way maintenance cycle, we will move into the planning phase once more. Our Forester will be conducting site visits and planning next year’s work in the coming months. The primary area that mechanical trimming and brushing will take place is Grand Marais, from Pike Lake Road in the west to County Road 14 in the east, and along Ball Club Road to the north. Additionally, we will be planning selective herbicide applications in the west end of our service territory, from Lake County to the Onion River Road.

Not all outages can be prevented but investing in vegetation management has both immediate and long-term benefits. By prioritizing this right-of-way project, Arrowhead Cooperative is investing in enhanced safety, outage reduction, and increased reliability. As always, if you have any concerns please call our office at (800) 864-3744 and we will be happy to discuss.

FIND COMFORT AND SAVINGS THIS WINTER WITH DUAL FUEL

Arrowhead Cooperative offers excellent heating programs that offer value, safety, and competitive advantage. Our program variety ensures that you can choose the methods that best meet your needs. This month we're featuring our Dual Fuel Program.

Combine two heating sources to best fit your budget and tailor your energy investment to meet your heating needs. Dual Fuel is a "controlled" electric heating program, which helps save money and conserve energy. This program offers the option to incorporate your low-cost primary electric heat source, such as baseboard heat, in conjunction with a back-up heating system, such as propane or electric storage heat.

When demand for electricity is high, your primary electric heat source is shut off, or controlled (up to a maximum of 400 hours per heating season) with a maximum continuous control time of 12 hours. During control periods, your home's back-up heating system provides the heat you need.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND BENEFITS

- Participants must have an electric heating system combined with an acceptable whole home backup heating system equal to or greater than the electric system enrolled on the program. A list of acceptable



"We love being on the Dual Fuel Program and don't even notice the interruptions. It works so smoothly and saves us money."

- Arrowhead Electric Member

primary and back up heating source options is available online at www.arrowheadcoop.com. Failure to have a working backup heating system will result in removal from the program.

- Participants receive electricity used for heating at a discounted rate of 6.8 cents per kWh.
- Rebates are also available for new heating systems.

Call Arrowhead Cooperative during business hours to learn more about the heating options that could save you money!

Reminder: Dual Fuel is a "controlled" electric heating program which is why it can be offered at a reduced electric rate. When there's a high demand for electricity - usually the coldest day of winter - the electric heat source can be shut off for up to 12 hours at a time. That's why it's critical to have your back-up heating source tested before winter hits so you know it'll be there when you need it.

LOOKING FOR A TAX BREAK?

With the start of another heating season, we would like to remind members who have electric heat as a primary heat source, that their heat is exempt from Minnesota sales tax November through April.

The exemption only applies to electricity used as your primary fuel for residential heating. If you have two heat meters, only one heat meter is tax-exempt. Electricity from lights, appliances, etc. is not tax-exempt. Arrowhead Cooperative must charge sales tax unless we have a Sales Tax Exemption Certificate on file. If you sent in the form in the past you do NOT need to send it in again. We renew it automatically. If you find you qualify and are not sure if you have already submitted this certificate look under your rate on your bill. If it says "Winter Exempt" in your rate description then you are tax exempt.

ELECTRIC HEAT SALES TAX EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the main source of heat for my home (over 50%) is furnished by permanently installed electric heating equipment and I, therefore, am eligible for the electric heating sales tax exemption, as provided by Minnesota state law. This is for the billing months of November through April only.

ACCOUNT #: _____

DATE: _____

MEMBER NAME: (please print) _____

MEMBER SIGNATURE: _____

SERVICE ADDRESS: _____

MANDATORY 10-DIGIT DIALING IN COOK COUNTY

Effective October 24, 2021, MANDATORY 10-digit local dialing is required for all calls in the Minnesota 218 area code.

In 2020, the FCC established “988” as the new, nationwide three-digit phone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The new three-digit dialing code will be available nationwide by July 16, 2022, and will provide an easy-to-remember and easy to dial three-digit number to reach suicide prevention and mental health counselors, similar to “911” for emergencies and “311” for local government services.

GET READY FOR 10-DIGIT DIALING FOR ALL LOCAL CALLS

FOR EXAMPLE:
TO CALL ARROWHEAD COOPERATIVE

(218) 663-7239

YOU MUST DIAL ALL 10 DIGITS

The 218 area code is impacted by this change because there is a conflict within the area code because it contains telephone numbers with the 988 prefix, which as mentioned above will become the new suicide lifeline next summer.

To allow for this change, **beginning October 24, 2021, you must dial 10 digits (area code + telephone number) for all local calls, even if the area code is the same area code as your own.** On and after this date, local calls dialed with only 7 digits may not be completed, and a recording will inform you that your call cannot be completed as dialed. If you get this recording, you must hang up and dial again using the area code with the 7-digit telephone number.

Transitioning to ten-digit dialing will not affect your current telephone number. Your phone number, including your area code, will not change.



**Community born.
Community led.
Focused on YOU.**

October is National Co-op Month!

CO-OP NEWS

COLD WEATHER RULE REMINDER

Arrowhead Cooperative members who may have trouble paying their winter energy bills are reminded that the Cold Weather Rule took effect October 1, 2021.

The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule protects qualified residential utility customers during the winter months. Under this rule, electric service will not be disconnected from October 1 through April 30 due to non-payment, if customers meet Cold Weather Rule requirements. However, this rule does not relieve members of their responsibility to pay their utility bills.

Those who qualify for Cold Weather Rule protection need to set up a payment schedule with the Cooperative. Call us today for more information or to setup your payment arrangement at (800) 864-3744.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, October 28, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.



2022 CALENDAR CONTEST VOTING

Follow these three steps to vote for your favorite photos for the 2022 Arrowhead Cooperative Calendar by Sunday, October 24!

1

If you haven't already, "like" Arrowhead Cooperative on Facebook.



2

Go to our 2022 Calendar Contest photo album on our Facebook page.



3

Vote for a photo by selecting the "like" button on the photos of your choosing.



JOIN US FOR A DRIVE-THROUGH APPRECIATION EVENT

We are grateful for YOU and YOUR membership!

Every year, our member appreciation event is our chance to thank you and express our appreciation for your patronage throughout the year. As members of the cooperative, you are more than just customers, you are the owners of the cooperative. You are the owners of all the poles and power lines, the bucket trucks and facilities, and the only fiber-to-the-home broadband system in Cook County. This is your cooperative – you own it!

This year we'll have three drive-through events for members and subscribers to stop by and claim a bag of goodies from Arrowhead Cooperative! Please join us at the following locations 11 am - 1 pm:

Thursday, October 7:
Grand Portage Community Center

Tuesday, October 12:
Schaap Community Center at Mid-Trail

Thursday, October 14:
Arrowhead Cooperative Lutsen Office

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK FOR A CHANCE TO WIN \$50

As part of our member appreciation celebration, Arrowhead Cooperative will be giving away one \$50 electric bill credit and one \$50 broadband bill credit. All you have to do is like the Arrowhead Cooperative Facebook page at www.facebook.com/arrowheadcoop by October 31, 2021, to be automatically entered in the drawing to win!

(Drawings take place the first week of November 2021.)



OCTOBER CALENDAR WINNER

Submitted by: Vienna Volante



SAFETY TIP

Take precaution as the season changes. Safely store warm weather tools like lawn mowers and trimmers. Check cold weather tools, such as leaf and snow blowers, along with their power cords, for unusual wear and tear.

ARROWHEAD COOPERATIVE

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