



MIDSTATE CONNECTION

Office Hours: 7:00 am-5:30 pm, Monday-Thursday
Closed Fridays & Holidays

Business Hours: 541-536-2126
After Hours Outages: 800-752-5935

WIRED FOR SERVICE.

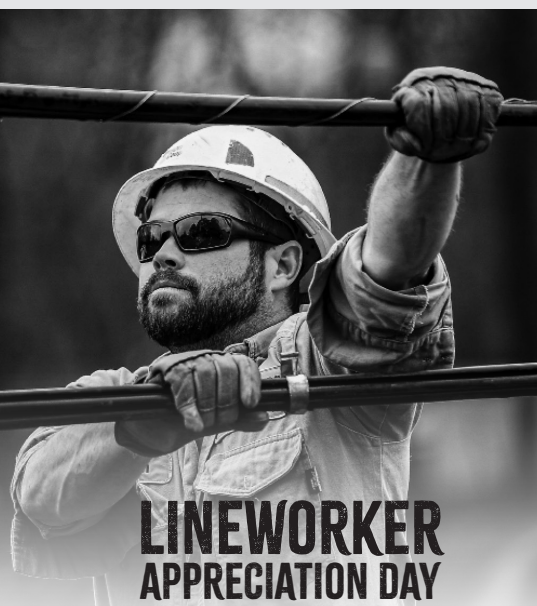
We thank electrical lineworkers for their commitment to powering our local communities.

In the quiet hours before dawn breaks, while many of us are still nestled in our beds, lineworkers begin their day, often clad in flame-resistant clothing, safety goggles, rubber gloves and thick, heavy boots.

They are the individuals who epitomize dedication to service in its purest form. As we celebrate Lineworker Appreciation Day on April 18, this is an important moment to reflect on the essential role they play in our daily lives.

Amid towering utility poles and power lines, lineworkers exhibit a strength that goes far beyond the physical. Whether battling inclement weather, troubleshooting technical problems or navigating treacherous heights, lineworkers demonstrate resilience and a quiet determination to keep our lights on, our homes comfortable, and our communities connected.

Midstate Electric crews travel across our four-county service territory, building, maintaining and repairing parts of our local system. Their extraordinary skills ensure our homes remain connected to the grid, businesses stay operational, and emergency services remain accessible—a lifeline that connects us all. In moments of crisis, when the lights



APRIL 18, 2025

go out and we find ourselves in the dark, lineworkers emerge as beacons of hope. Their swift response restores normalcy, offering reassurance in times of uncertainty. Whether repairing storm-ravaged power lines or ensuring continuity during emergencies, their unwavering commitment illuminates life when we need it most.

Midstate Electric lineworkers also answer the call beyond the boundaries of home. Our crews travel to fellow co-ops, near or far, when widespread outages occur and additional support is needed. Cooperation among cooperatives is one of our seven guiding principles, and no one embodies this core commitment better than lineworkers.

This month, as we celebrate the remarkable men and women who ensure reliable power, let's recognize their unwavering dedication to the local communities they serve.

The next time you flip a switch, please take a moment to remember those who make it possible—lineworkers, who are wired for service and dedicated to illuminating life.

Midstate Annual Meeting of the Membership *Saturday, May 17th!*

Please join us at Midstate Electric Cooperative's headquarters in La Pine for our 73rd Annual Meeting of the Members. This is your opportunity as a member-owner to engage in the business of your electric cooperative.

At the meeting, you'll get a firsthand look at the state of the co-op, participate in the board of directors election, enjoy lunch with fellow members, ask questions, and even win prizes donated by MEC vendors!

Watch your mail for more details, including the official meeting notice, information on board candidates for Districts 3, 4 & 6, and a "Quick Check" registration card—bring it to the meeting for a chance to win one of several \$100 bill credit drawings!

Doors open at 8:00 a.m. and the business session begins at 9:00 a.m. We look forward to seeing you on May 17!



Easements are Essential to Serve You

The terms “easement” and “right-of-way” may sound like neighborhood lingo and traffic sign text, but they exist to help Midstate and other utilities provide quality service.

If you're a homeowner, you most likely own the property your home sits on; however, utility companies have the right to use parts of it (known as “right-of-way”) in order to perform equipment or line maintenance or to restore services. Utility easements are areas that were designated for overhead and underground utility access when your home was first platted. This is the case for many properties that are connected to a city power grid, sewer or water system.

Why are easements necessary? They are implemented because it is more efficient and less expensive to run utility lines straight through neighborhoods than it is to run them around parcels of land. Having right-of-way access does not mean utilities can do whatever they want in your yard. It does mean they can use the area in a way that is advantageous to you, your neighbors and your community.

Utility lines that allow for electric, gas, telephone, cable, and fiber optic services cover a lot of area. Underground, there's more than one football field's length of buried utilities for every man, woman, and child in the United States. In total there are 100 billion feet of underground utilities in the U.S. according to data compiled by the Common Ground Alliance. Also massive in scope and range, overhead lines span millions of miles across the country.

If you have plans to dig in your yard, Safe Electricity reminds you to call the national digging hotline 8-1-1 location service 72 hours before you start. Remember, some lines are buried only a few inches below the ground's surface. For your safety (to avoid severe electric shock or injury) and the safety of others (e.g. gas leak), call before you dig.

At the very least, utility identification will ensure your cable television or internet service is not disrupted and that you won't be fined for hitting a line.

Workers who service utility lines should arrive in a marked vehicle and have proper identification. If you have any concerns, please call us at 541-536-2126.

America's Electric Cooperatives

THE IMPORTANCE OF RELIABILITY

America is at an energy crossroads. Critical generation resources are being retired faster than they can be reliably replaced. At the same time, electricity demand is surging as data centers and new manufacturing plants come online. **Smart energy policies that keep the lights on are more important than ever.**

A pro-energy future for America hinges on three things: addressing skyrocketing demand, removing regulatory burdens and promoting the long-term well-being of rural communities.

That's why America's electric co-ops are fighting for smart energy policies that prioritize reliability and affordability for all.

Update Your SmartHub Contact Information

Having accurate contact information on file is crucial for ensuring that Midstate can reach you in the event of an emergency. If you've recently changed or added phone numbers, or if your status has changed in any way, we encourage you to update your account information..

Here are several convenient ways to update your contact information:

Online (Recommended)

The easiest way to update your account information is through our website. Simply visit our site (www.mse.coop), click on the SmartHub link, log in, and select the “Settings” dropdown and select “Contact Information” from the dropdown menu. This will allow you to quickly enter and update your current contact

details. You can also update your “Contact Methods” within SmartHub to opt in for notifications via email or text message.

Phone Call

You may also update your information over the phone by contacting our Member Service department at 541-536-2126, option 3.

In Person

If you prefer, you can make updates to your account information in person when paying your bill.

Even if you believe your account information is correct, please take a moment to verify it. Keeping your contact information up-to-date helps us serve you better and ensures we can communicate effectively in any situation.

Let's get connected on social media so you'll never miss an update on MEC activities, programs, and contests.

