SOUTHEAST ELECTRIC Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives

CELEBRATING 80 YEARS



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Power poles are not bulletin boards

Am I allowed to attach signs to power poles?

No. For your safety and the safety of utility workers, please do not attach signs, posters, or other items to power poles.

We've all seen them — missing-pet posters, garage-sale signs, political signs and community announcements. While hanging a piece of paper on a utility pole may seem harmless, the nails, staples, tacks and other fasteners used to attach those signs can create serious hazards for the people who work on our electrical system.

A hazard for linemen

Utility workers often climb poles while working near energized powerlines. Objects can cause a worker to fall if they snag their boots. Their protective gloves, sleeves and other equipment are designed to help protect them from electrical contact.

A nail, staple or tack sticking out of a pole can puncture or tear this protective equipment. Even a small hole can compromise the protection it provides and put a worker at risk of serious injury.



Utility poles may carry powerlines with 7,200 volts or more, making safe working conditions extremely important.

It can damage the pole, too

Repeatedly driving nails, staples and other fasteners into a wooden utility pole can damage the wood and allow moisture to enter. Over time, this can contribute to deterioration and reduce the pole's strength.

A damaged pole is more vulnerable to other problems, including being knocked over by a vehicle or severe weather. A fallen pole can mean more than an inconvenience — it can result in power outages and costly repairs.

More than just signs

Signs aren't the only concern. Utility workers have encountered items such as hunting stands, mailboxes and basketball hoops attached to or supported by utility poles.

Attaching these items to a utility pole can create hazards for the person using them, nearby residents and utility workers. It can also interfere with the safe operation and maintenance of electrical equipment.

Choose a safer alternative

Please help us keep our communities safe by never posting, hanging or attaching anything to a utility pole.

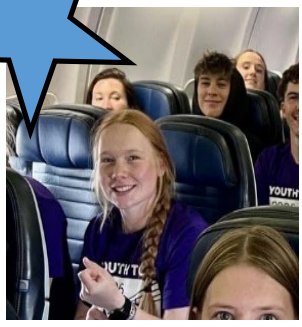
Instead, consider using yard stakes, approved community bulletin boards, local businesses or online community groups to share your announcements.

Keeping signs and other items off utility poles help protect the people who work every day to keep your lights on. RM

DO YOU HAVE ELECTRIC HEAT?

CHECK THAT BREAKER

Reminder for members with electric heat: The heating season is coming soon, be sure to turn on any circuit breakers that may have been turned off for the summer months. If left off, your heat meter may not have power, resulting in you paying the full price for electric heat, rather than the low-cost electric heat rate!







Win a FREE trip to D.C.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS NOV. 20

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) 2027 Youth Tour is June 17-24, 2027.

In 2026, 29 students from across the state took part in Montana's Electric Youth Tour at no cost to them.

Southeast Electric Cooperative encourages any current sophomore or junior whose parent or guardian is served by the co-op to apply for this unbelievable all-expenses-paid, once-in-a-lifetime trip to Washington, D.C.

The delegates will visit monuments and historic sites throughout D.C., cruise the Potomac River, explore world-renowned museums, and make lifelong new friends!

This year's essay topic is: If you could build a monument in Washington, D.C., who would you honor and why?

We urge you to have your student write the essay! It's an easy way to experience this fun-filled educational week in Washington, D.C. Apply now! The deadline is 5:00 p.m. November 20, 2026.

Visit *www.seecoop.com/youth-tour* to get more information, see the resource guide and view the application.