

Watt's News

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Official Newsletter of Brainerd Public Utilities, PO Box 373, Brainerd, MN 56401

Electricity, Water, Wastewater, Electricity, Water, Wastewater

May is Electrical Safety Month Electrical Safety Rules for Kids

Teach your kids electrical safety rules so they can protect themselves and others from the dangers of electricity. Teaching safety rules to children also helps to prevent electrical fires.

Electrical Cords

Never unplug something by grabbing the cord. Always grab the plug part to remove the plug from the electrical outlet.

Tell your parents about any frayed or damaged electrical cords so they can be replaced right away.

Don't plug something in or unplug something unless you have your parents' permission. Keep electrical cords away from heat.

Water

Keep all electrical appliances away from water.

Never touch appliances, electrical outlets or switches with wet hands.

Don't swim during electrical storms. Seek cover inside as quickly as possible if there's thunder and lightening.



Electrical Outlets and Sockets

Never put your finger or anything else besides a safety cover into an electrical outlet or a light socket. You could be electrocuted.

Always turn off the switch before changing a light bulb.

Electrical Wires

Before you climb a tree, check to see if any electrical wires run through it or around it. If they do, choose another tree to climb instead.

When you carry something tall, make sure you don't bump overhead wires with the object. Electricity could travel down the object and electrocute you.

Don't fly kites near electrical wires.

If you come across a downed electrical wire, don't touch anything that the wire is touching. Don't touch anyone who may be touching the wire either.

Never climb a utility pole or tower.

Never go into an electrical substation. If there's a problem and something or someone needs to be gotten out of the substation, call your electric utility instead of trying to get it yourself.

Rules for Younger Kids

It's never too soon to start teaching your kids to be safe around electricity. Probably the first things you'll teach are not to touch electrical cords and not to touch electrical outlets. Very young children can learn these things to help keep them safe. These simple rules for your babies and toddlers lay the groundwork for them to understand other important safety rules.

TREE TRIMMING

Tree trimming requests will be put on a list to be done during the winter months. Trees that interfere with Brainerd Public Utilities' (BPU) power lines, with the exception of service wires to residences or buildings, will be trimmed or removed depending on the circumstances.

Trimming or removal of trees on private property is the property owner's responsibility. BPU will temporarily remove and replace the property owner's service wires to accommodate the tree trimming or removal during normal business hours.

BPU requires 24 hours notification to temporarily remove the service wires.

If you would like to be put on the winter tree trimming list, call Phil at 218-829-2193.

Watt's Weather

Total Precipitation
April 2010 1.09"
April 2009 8"

Average Temperatures
April 2010 Hi 64 Lo 38.5
April 2009 Hi 52 Lo 30

SECURITY LIGHTING

BPU offers a security lighting program. Security lighting illuminates possible safety hazards to make your property safe at night, and protects your home or business by discouraging vandalism, theft, and burglary.

Security lighting is available to residential, commercial, and industrial customers. BPU installs the pole and maintains the security light.

This service is offered for a monthly fee of \$12.00 plus tax per security light. Call us today to sign up for this program at 829-2193.







Have you ever wanted to be more involved in our electoral process? Do you have an interest in being a part of democracy in action? Then consider being an election judge! Service as an election judge is a great way to be involved in the electoral process.

Brainerd City Administrator Dan Vogt announces that in preparation for the upcoming fall elections, election judges are being sought to serve at the August 10th and November 2nd elections.

Employers are required by law to allow time off from work to serve as a judge, and election judges are paid for their time. The following are criteria for service as an election judge:

- * Eligible voter
- * Read, write and speak English
- * Not a candidate in the current election
- * Not a spouse, parent, child or sibling of another judge in same precinct or candidate in the current election

Judges serve with party designation, or may serve as a non-affiliated judge. Judges may serve a full election day, or work a shift that fits their schedule if enough judges are available.

If you are interested in serving as an election judge, please contact the Brainerd City Administrator's Office at (218) 828-2307 for additional details.

STREET LIGHTING

Brainerd City Council has directed BPU to reduce street lighting costs by \$90,000. BPU is accomplishing this by turning selective lights off city wide, and reducing wattages where applicable.

OTICE: All electrical work performed in the City of Brainerd requires a "Request for Electrical Inspection" form to be filed, and work inspected by our inspector. Please call 825-3210 or 829-2193 for more information.

Business & Repair Office Hours

7:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Business: 829-8726 **Repair:** 829-2193

Emergency 24 hour service 365 days a

year: 218-829-2193

EMAIL@BPU.ORG WWW.BPU.ORG

EFORE DIGGING: Call Gopher State One at 1-800-252-1166 for water and electric locations. All requests for locations must be made by calling the above toll free number at least 48 hours before digging begins.

Make the most of yourself, for that is all there is of you.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)