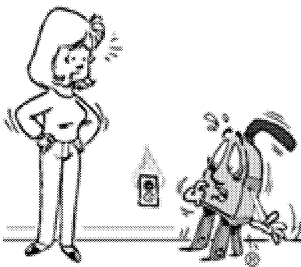


MAY IS ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH



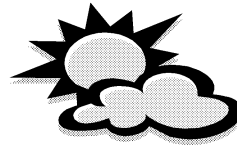
There could be a dangerous situation in your house and it's not the week-old meatloaf in the refrigerator. It's your electrical appliance that may be heating things up.

May is National Electrical Safety Month. It is estimated that electricity causes 140,000 fires each year. These fires kill hundreds of people, injure thousands more, and cost billions of dollars in property damage. Aging electrical systems, combined with the growing power demands, contribute to electrical fire hazards. Overloaded circuits, flickering lights, and discolored electrical outlets and light switch plates point to the need for electrical upgrades. Addressing these hazards can save lives, reduce injuries and cut economic losses caused by electrical fires.

Outlets & Switches

Switches are used to turn the power on and off. Outlets, or receptacles, are usually mounted on a wall or floor to supply electricity through a cord and plug to appliances, lamps, TV's, etc. These are the key points in our electrical systems that give us our first line of control to our electrical use, and they are critical connection points. With time and use, these connections can become loose, creating potential hazards.

- Check to make sure outlet and switch plates are not unusually hot to the touch. If they are, immediately unplug cords from these outlets and do not use the switches. Have a qualified, licensed electrician check the wiring as soon as possible.
- Look for discoloration as another indication of potentially dangerous heat buildup at these connections. Stand across the room and look for a tear-drop shaped darkening around and above outlet and switch cover plates.
- Check that all outlet and switch cover plates are in good condition so that no wiring is exposed. Replace any missing, cracked or broken cover plates.
- Be sure to use safety caps with unused outlets.



Watt's Weather

Total Precipitation

April 2006	2.07"
April 2005	2.53"

Average Temperatures

April 2006	Hi 63	Lo 34
April 2005	Hi 61	Lo 34

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Happiness keeps you sweet,
 Trials keep you strong,
 Sorrow keeps you human,
 Failure keeps you humble,
 Success keeps you glowing,
 But only God keeps you going!

MOVING ?

If you are moving, please notify our office at least a day in advance to have your meter(s) read for your final bill.



BPU requires an application for service be filled out if you are beginning service with us for the first time or transferring service to a new address. If you have not previously completed an application, you will have to come to our business office to do so or the forms can be faxed or mailed to you. We will not read the meter(s) until we have received the completed application. If you are moving outside of our service area, we will only need a forwarding address in order to send your final bill or refund the balance of your deposit, if one has been paid.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The following is a summary of the financial operations of BPU for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2004, and 2003.

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2005	2004	2003
Electric Dept.			
Total Operating Revenue	\$14,582,553	\$12,579,564	\$12,407,357
Total Operating Expenses	<u>12,553,202</u>	<u>11,013,945</u>	<u>10,990,387</u>
Operating Income	2,029,351	1,565,619	1,416,970
Total Non-operating Revenue	72,103	60,840	76,345
Transfers to the City of Brainerd	(678,744)	(607,151)	(2,050,090)
Change in Net Assets	<u>\$ 1,422,710</u>	<u>\$ 1,019,308</u>	<u>\$ (556,775)</u>
Number of Meters in Service	7,616	7,415	7,192
Water Dept.			
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 1,496,546	\$1,281,078	\$1,230,071
Total Operating Expenses	<u>1,562,987</u>	<u>1,360,964</u>	<u>1,247,541</u>
Operating Loss	(66,441)	(79,886)	(17,470)
Total Non-operating Revenue	9,917	(12,854)	9,508
Transfers to the City of Brainerd	-	-	(9,355)
Capital Contribution from City	<u>2,386,717</u>	<u>1,390,404</u>	
Change in Net Assets	<u>\$ 2,330,193</u>	<u>\$1,297,664</u>	<u>\$ (17,317)</u>
Number of Meters in Service	4,617	4,511	4,382
Wastewater Treatment Dept.			
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 1,215,436	1,045,730	1,037,075
Total Operating Expenses	<u>1,341,705</u>	<u>1,301,143</u>	<u>1,072,261</u>
Operating Income	(126,269)	(255,413)	(35,186)
Total Non-operating Revenue	47,064	37,859	45,006
Transfers to the City of Brainerd	-	-	(1,646)
Change in Net Assets	<u>(79,205)</u>	<u>(217,554)</u>	<u>8,174</u>

THANK YOU

To all of our customers who responded to the information form that was sent with your April bill. We appreciate your help to update our records.



ARE YOUR WATER RATES TOO HIGH?

Many people complain about the prices they are paying for the high-quality water they get for their taps. MRWA (Minnesota Rural Water Association), hopes the following information will help put things in perspective. Below are calculations of the prices we would pay per gallon for some of the many products we use on a regular basis:

Ice Tea: 16 ounces at \$1.55 = \$12.40 per gallon

Fruit Juice: 16 ounces at \$1.59 = \$12.72 per gallon

Sports Drink: 20 Ounces at \$1.75 = \$11.20 per gallon

Diet Soft Drink: 20 ounces at \$1.55 = \$9.92 per gallon

Domestic Beer: 12 ounces at \$2.50 = \$26.67 per gallon

Bottled Water: 20 ounces at \$1.89 = \$12.10 per gallon

Tap Water: 128 ounces at \$.0023 = \$.0023 per gallon

That is right \$12.10 for a gallon of bottled water. Compare that to the average cost of tap water, which is \$.0023 per gallon! Also, since the bottled water industry is not regulated like public water systems, those buying typically don't even know where it comes from or what is in it. Think about that the next time you turn on your tap and fill up your glass with water!



CALL TO LOCATE BURIED LINES BEFORE YOU DIG

Warmer weather brings renewed outdoor activity. Before you undertake your building or landscaping projects this spring, remember to call Gopher State One Call. It's required by state law. Utilities will mark their service lines with a color code in the area you will be excavating.

Red...Electricity

Green Sewer

Yellow ...Gas/oil

Pink.....Temporary survey

BlueWater

White ... Proposed excavation

Orange ...Communication/CATV

Call Gopher State One Call at 1-800-252-1166. All requests must be made at least two working days before you dig for water and electric locations. It is also helpful to mark the area you plan to excavate with white paint.

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 all BPU 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.

Business Office Hours 7:00 - 3:30, 829-8726

**Repair/Service Operations Office Hours
7:00 - 3:30, 829-2193**

**Emergency 24 hour service 365 days a year,
829-2193**

EMAIL@BPU.ORG OR WWW.BPU.ORG

NOTICE: All electrical work performed in the City of Brainerd requires a "Request for Electrical Inspection" form to be completed, filed, and work inspected by our inspector. If you need the form or have any questions, please contact Brainerd Public Utilities at 825-3210 or 829-2193.