



HILL COUNTY ELECTRIC NEWS & VIEWS

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1.877.394.7804  
hillcountyelectric.coop

Save a Life: Avoid Distractions While Driving



Craig Gates
General Manager/CEO

While driving, we typically hear that “ding” on our phone, alerting us to a text or call coming through, and we sometimes feel the urgent need to check it. We know we shouldn’t, but we reason that we’re going to make an exception—just this once.

So, why do we indulge in behavior we know to be wrong, dangerous and in many

states, illegal? Call it hubris. According to AAA research, most people feel they are better-than-average drivers. After all, we have busy lives and are accustomed to multitasking. But mounds of research and thousands of deaths every year prove otherwise.

The reality is that using a phone while driving creates potential for injuries and fatalities. Distractions take a motorist’s attention off driving, which can make a driver miss critical events, objects and cues, potentially leading to a crash.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, one of every 10 fatal crashes in the U.S. involves distracted driving, resulting in more than 3,000 deaths annually. I find this statistic heartbreaking considering so many of these accidents could easily be avoided if we’d simply put down our phones while driving.

Distracted driving is considered any activity that diverts our attention, including texting or talking on the phone without being hands free, and adjusting the navigation or entertainment system. Texting is by far one of the most dangerous distractions. Sending or reading one text takes your eyes off the road for an average of five seconds. At 70 mph that is one tenth of a mile. That is a lot of roads covered without any eyes on the road or hands covering the wheel of the vehicle.

In addition to refraining from texting while driving, we can help keep the roads safe by moving over for first responders and other emergency and utility vehicles. If you see utility crews conducting work near the roadside, it is now the law in Montana that you must move over and slow down and give them extra space to perform their work safely.

At Hill County Electric, safety is foremost in everything we do—for our employees and the members of the communities we serve. It is Hill County Electric policy that there will be no texting and driving. We routinely remind our crews of the dangers of distracted driving, and we hope you’ll have similar conversations with your teens who may be new to the roadways and are especially susceptible to the lure of technology.

Let’s work together to keep everyone safe on the roads.

Remember: that text can wait and waiting just might save a life. If it is that important, pull over in a safe spot, stop the vehicle, read the text and return the text if necessary before you get back on the road.

Don’t put your life or others’ lives in danger.

As always, stay safe and stay healthy!



Play it safe. That text can wait.

While driving, turn phone to silent mode or pull over if the text can’t wait.

America's Electric Cooperatives

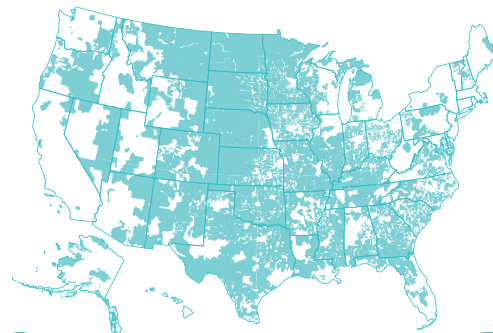
From booming suburbs to remote rural communities, America's electric cooperatives are energy providers and engines of economic development. Electric cooperatives play a vital role in transforming communities.

Our co-ops serve **42 million** people, including **92% of persistent poverty counties**.

Power over **21.5 million** businesses, homes, schools and farms in **48 states**.

Returned more than **\$1.4 billion** in capital credits to their consumer-members in 2021.

Cooperatives power **56%** of the nation's landmass.



832 distribution cooperatives are the foundation of the electric cooperative network. They were built by and serve co-op members in the community with the delivery of electricity and other services.



63 generation & transmission cooperatives provide wholesale power to distribution co-ops through their own electric generation facilities or by purchasing power on behalf of the distribution members.

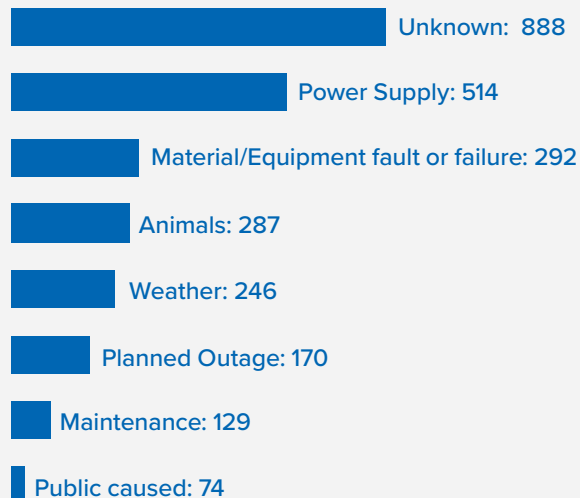


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HCE Happenings

Last month, Hill County Electric (HCE) had approximately **2600** account hours affected by outages. Of these hours:



PLUG INTO SAFETY



ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

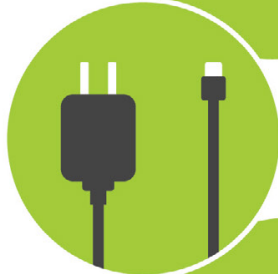
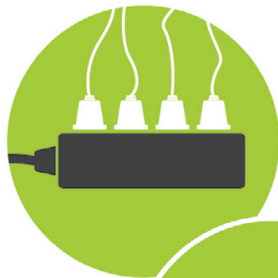
Make electrical safety a priority this month, and every month.

ELECTRONICS WORD SCRAMBLE

You can be more energy efficient by turning off unused electronics. Many electronics consume energy even when they're not being used. Unplug them to save energy.

Unscramble the letters below to reveal electronics you can turn off when not in use.

Use the pictures for clues and check your work in the answer key.



1. NEPOH EHGRAC

2. MGAE NOESCLO

3. LCAEB XBO

4. EWROP PRTIS

5. ONSILEETIV

WORD BANK

Power strip Television Game console
Cable box Phone charger

ANSWER KEY: 1) PHONE CHARGER 2) GAME CONSOLE 3) CABLE BOX 4) POWER STRIP 5) TELEVISION

Swap and Shop

Welcome to our Swap and Shop! Feel free to post and find classifieds from other members.

Ads submitted online are usually added within 2 to 3 business days. Due to print deadlines and space available, some ads may appear in the next month's magazine.

2016 Starweld Boat

18 Pro Merc 150 (20 hrs) Merc 9.9 kicker, minn-kota troll, 4 seats, ram mount rod holders, bimini top, travel cover, shorelander trailer. Asking \$32,000, call 406.566.2426.

1980 Case 446 Tractor

1980 Case 446 tractor 2 cycle, 16hp, hydro with 48-inch mower. New battery, always stored inside, nice tires, set and paint. Call Mike at 406.374.2458.

1979 CJ5 Jeep with winch

1979 CJ5 Jeep with winch, steel cab and roll bar. New tires, batter, starter, fuel pump and windshield. Runs good. Also 1989 Dodge short box V8 auto. All original, great shape with seats and carpet in excellent shape. Very hard to find one like this, runs great. No rust 87K, 2nd owner. 1980 Case 446 tractor with 46 inch mower and hydro, 16 hp. Good tires and paint, stored indoors, \$1,500. Call 406.350.1392.

Whole & Half Pork For Sale

Farm raised in Havre, processed at the Saco Pay and Save. Processing in June and October. Whole \$450 plus processing and half is \$250 plus processing. You receive approx. 150 lbs of meat per whole hog. I deliver processed meat locally and area between Saco and Havre on pickup day. Contact Twyla at 406.230.2281 (text or call). Also on Facebook.

Feandrea Cat Condo*

Condo is 33" high, like new for large cats up to 16 pounds. Light gray with a large top perch, 22"x15.7". Removable and washable top pad. Asking \$55, cash. Call 406.355.4204.

Hunting Lease Wanted

Respectful, honest group of sportsmen seek long-term yearly hunting lease for elk, deer and other game. We are willing to compensate a landowner well for premier hunting. We will work with landowner to manage game and allow period(s) for landowner and family to hunt. Contact David at 406.263.2133, serious inquiries only.

1955 Ford 600 Series Tractor with Ford loader

Does not run but not seized, good tins. Asking \$1,500, call 406.566.2274.

1985 Ford F150

4x4 1985 Ford F150 4x4, 300-6, 4 speed, good body, very little rust, front dif bad but have used one for replacement. Parked because of starter/solenoid issue 12 years ago. Asking \$5,000, call 406.566.2274.

1967 Ford F100

1967 Ford F100 4x4, 360, 4 speed, upgraded front and rear difs, power front disc brakes, very little rust, 2-inch front lift. New 235 8SR16 tires on new white spoke wheels. Runs great but leaks oil and water. Located in Stanford, asking \$10,000, call 406.566.2274.

Musical Instruments, Books and misc

Yamaha FG800 guitar and case, \$125.00. The Old West (Time-Life Books) 27-volume set plus Master index, \$150.00. Bamboo Lupaca pan flute, 21 pipes with case, \$110. Can text photos. Call 406.622.5093 or 406.231.0969.

Cooper Discovery Tires For Sale*

Four Cooper Discovery 245/60R20 with about 7,000 miles.

Culvert For Sale

Galvanized steel culvert, 12" diameter, 14' long. Never used, \$225, call 406.547.2184.

Car Dolly

Heavy duty car dolly with new tires and wheels, Dexter axle, electric brakes, \$400. Call 406.547.2184.

Hot Water Radiator For Sale*

Hot water radiator, under window size on legs. Asking \$100. Call 540.624.0502.

Farm Sink For Sale*

Double basin, double drain farm sink, 66" long, white porcelain over steel. Sears steel cabinets included. \$600 or best offer. Call 540.624.0502.

Items For Sale

5-8 foot banquet tables and Lowry Holiday Organ, donation suggested for tables and organ. Yamaha Digital Piano, \$500. Call 406.366.4625.

Walker Bay Dinghy

10ft. Walker Bay rigid dinghy with inflatable tubes (non-sinkable). Includes 6 hp., long shaft, 4 cycle Mercury motor (less than 100 hrs.), trailer, life jackets, anchor and oars. \$2,000. Call 406.547.2184.

Tires For Sale

Four 33x12.50R17 General Grabbers at 95% on black aluminum rims, 5x5.5 bolt pattern. Asking \$1,200, call 406.566.2274.

**Photos available on our website version of the Swap & Shop (www.itstriangle.com/swap-and-shop)*

Swap & Shop is a classified advertising section of the Triangle Communications and Hill County Electric websites and newsletters. It is maintained as a service to customers and communities wanting to buy, sell and announce non-commercial items. To have an ad included, simply enter all the pertinent information on the online form. An administrator will review the information within two business days and if approved, the ad will then appear. It will stay online for 60 days unless you notify us to remove or change it. It will also appear in any of the newsletters printed during that 60 day window. Triangle reserves the right to abbreviate ads and if the section is full, we will display ads on a first come, first-served basis. If you're unable to enter your ad online you may mail or e-mail it to us using the contact info inside the front cover of this magazine. Happy swapping and shopping.