



# TIPS From T.I.P.

Published By The T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative  
**OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE**

**July 2023**

**Brooklyn, Iowa**

## 2023 Director Election Packets to Arrive Soon

MEMBER-OWNERS! Shortly following your July bill, you will receive another mailing from T.I.P. REC which will be your election packet to vote for the Board of Directors who are up for election this year.

The election packet will have a cover letter explaining the new voting process. You have two options on how to vote: a Mail-In Ballot or online via SmartHub. Candidate Bios for those running in the election will also be included in the packet.

### PLEASE NOTE:

- **No Voting** at the August 23 Business Only Annual Meeting.
- Ballots must be postmarked no later than August 16, 2023 to be counted.
- All memberships casting a vote will receive a \$5.00 bill credit.
- **Do not include a payment with your ballot as it goes to a third party to be counted.**

To ensure a fair election, T.I.P. REC has engaged a neutral 3rd party vendor to distribute and tabulate the ballots. It is very important that you, as a member-owner vote in the election, as your vote will count toward meeting the quorum requirement for the Business Annual Meeting.

### Important Annual Meeting Reminder:

The Annual Meeting will be a Business Only Meeting held on Wednesday, August 23 at 1:00 pm at the Brooklyn headquarters. (612 W Des Moines St., Brooklyn, Iowa) and is open to member-owners to attend in-person.

- **Please note that there will be no meal, membership gifts or prize drawing at the meeting.**
- If you cast a vote, your name will be entered for a chance to win one of two grand prizes: Apple iPad 10 or Green Mountain Grill. **Attendance at the Business Only meeting IS NOT required to win.** Winners will be notified late August and arrangements will be made to deliver the prizes to the winners.

## Linemen Practice Safety Procedures



**T.I.P. REC linemen are pictured above reviewing basket truck rescue.**

Included in your cooperative's comprehensive safety program, all T.I.P. linemen review basket rescue procedures annually. During this review they practice how to rescue a fellow lineman using a basket truck who may have had electrical contact, heat exhaustion, an allergic reaction to a bee sting or heart complications while working on the lines.



**Pictured above is a linemen practicing his pole climbing.**

They also review and practice pole climbing competency as seen in the picture above. The linemen check their harnesses, climbing gear and lanyards to ensure they are in proper working condition. Each lineman then takes his turn climbing the pole to practice his pole climbing skills.



## Installing a New Grain Bin?

The State of Iowa requires specific clearances for electric lines around grain bins. T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative will provide assistance in planning for a safe environment for everyone working and living around grain bins.

The diagrams shown are according to the National Electrical Safety Code found in Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 199-25.2(3)b. An electric utility may refuse to provide electric service to any grain bin built near an existing electric line which does not provide the clearances required by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) C2-2017, "National Electric Safety Code", Rule 234F. This paragraph "b" shall apply only to grain bins loaded by portable augers, conveyors or elevators and built after September 9, 1992, or to grain bins loaded by permanently installed augers, conveyors, or elevator systems installed after December 24, 1997. (As adopted by the Iowa Utilities Board).

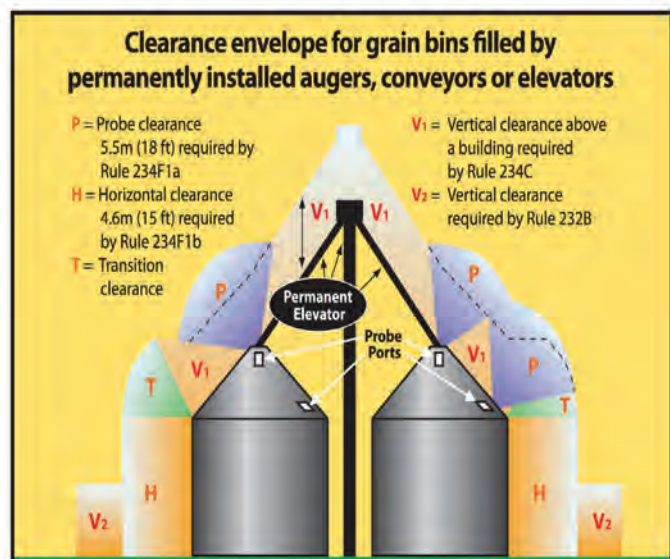
T.I.P. and its power supplier, Central Iowa Power Cooperative, are required by the Iowa Utilities Board to provide this annual notice to farmers, farm lenders, grain bin merchants, and city and county zoning officials. If you have any questions concerning any clearance regulations, please call T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative at (800) 934-7976 before any new grain bin plans are finalized. For your safety, T.I.P. standards exceeds those specified in NESC.



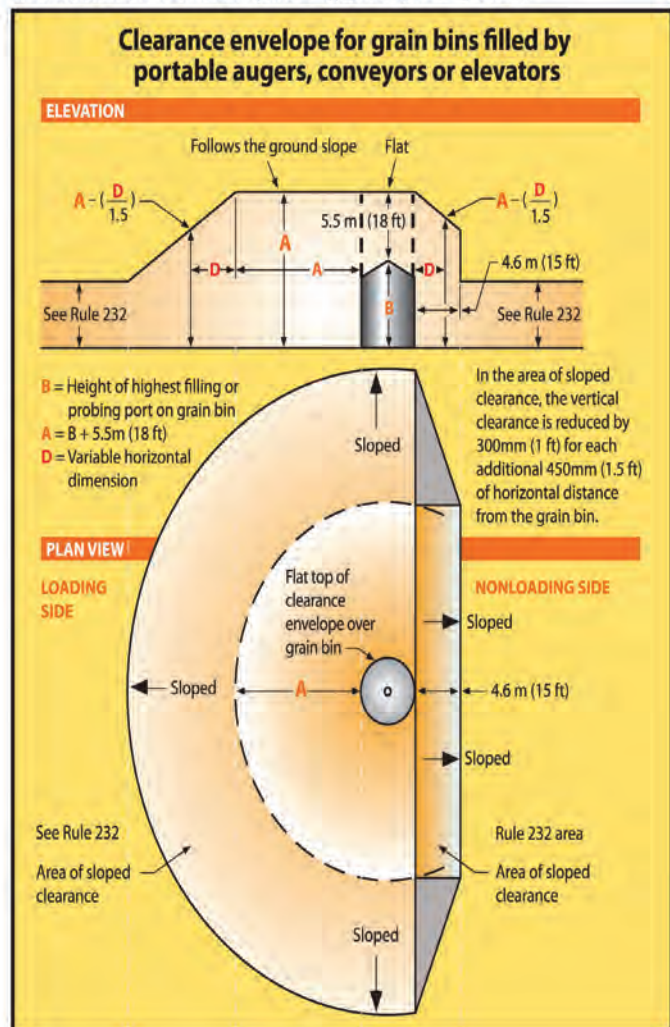
## Pool Clearances

When installing a pool, clearance in any direction from the water level, edge of a pool, base of diving platform, or anchored raft is required by (ANSI) C2-2012, "National Electric Safety Code", Rule T-234-3.

If you have any questions, please call us at (800) 934-7976 before any new pool plans are finalized.



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## Aggressive Vegetation Management Program Continues



The need to control growth of vegetation along power line right-of-way is easy to see in rural areas.

Overgrown right-of-way can cause problems during severe weather and can make it difficult to reach trouble spots to make repairs. This vegetation control program enables your cooperative to provide you with more reliable electric service.

In a continuing effort to control vegetation growth, T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative has hired Midwest Spray Team & Sales, Inc. to treat vegetation in power line right-of-way with governmentally-approved herbicides. They start our program the first part of summer, using foliage herbicides. Midwest Spray Team & Sales, Inc. will follow up in the fall with a basal treatment in the areas they could not foliage spray. Growth in county road ditches will be sprayed,

but if the Midwest crew has any questions, they will attempt to contact the landowner before spraying.

This year, Midwest Spray Team crews will be treating power line right-of-way in the Chelsea, Tama, Millersburg and Ollie substation areas.

If you have any questions or complaints, contact Hunter Connelly, Manager of System Operations, or Becca Stauffer, Operations Coordinator, in our Brooklyn office at 800-934-7976.

Vegetation management is yet another way that T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative keeps service reliability as one of our most important goals.

### Your T.I.P. Board of Directors:

Gene Von Ahsen, Homestead. . . . . President  
Anne Axmear, North English . . . . Vice-President  
Ronald Hoffman, Sigourney . . . . Sec'y-Treasurer  
Jerry Henning, Hartwick . . . . . Ass't Secretary  
David Lee King, Guernsey . . . . . Director  
Lisa Tichy, Montour . . . . . Director  
James De Smet, Victor . . . . . Director  
Randy Upah, Chelsea. . . . . Director  
Craig Stallman, Williamsburg . . . . . Director

## YOU SCHEDULE MEETINGS AND LUNCHES SCHEDULE YOUR WASHING MACHINE AND DISHWASHER TOO!

Peak energy demand is a hot topic, but what is it and how does it impact electricity use? Simply stated, PEAK DEMAND is when energy consumption is at its highest.

In much of the U.S., energy use spikes in summer and winter due to INCREASED ENERGY DEMANDS for indoor cooling and heating. In the summer, energy use spikes between mid- to late afternoon and evening. In the winter, energy use is higher in the early morning and late afternoon/evening.

Consider running major appliances during off-peak times to decrease strain on the energy grid.

### CHANGING THE TIME OF DAY YOU USE ENERGY CAN:

- 🔌 Help lower your energy bills.
- ⚡ Avoid service interruptions or glitches.

Do your part to use energy wisely, especially when energy demands are high.



Safe  
Electricity.org<sup>®</sup> Learn more at:

## New Manager of System Operations



Pictured above Hunter Connelly who assumed the position of Manager of System Operations effective June 1, 2023.

Hunter graduated from Northwest Lineman College in Idaho and previously worked for Chariton Valley REC and Delano Municipal Utilities in Minnesota. He began working at T.I.P. REC July 6, 2021 as an Apprentice Lineman and then earned his Journeyman Lineman classification.

Hunter's fiancée, Ryann, is a Paramedic. They have a black lab named Ranger.

In his spare time, Hunter enjoys hunting, fishing, golfing, boating, Minnesota Vikings football and spending time with friends and family.

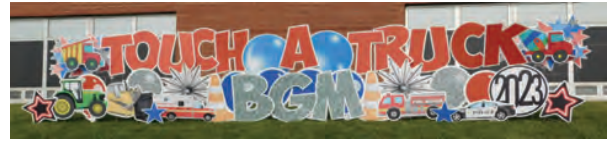
Congratulations on your new position, Hunter!

## Service Award



Pictured above right is General Manager, Scott Long, and Dean A. Huls, retired General Manager, holding his Appreciation Certificate for 43 years of service to the cooperative. In addition to the certificate, Dean received a monetary gift.

T.I.P. REC would like to thank Dean for his many years of guidance and dedicated service.



Pictured above left to right is Joe Kriegel, Brooklyn Line Foreman, and Chase Tremmel, Journeyman Lineman on our Sigourney crew.



BGM students, teachers and helpers are pictured with Joe and Chase in front of the T.I.P. REC trucks.

On Friday, May 19th the BGM School held a Touch a Truck Day where businesses brought their trucks or equipment for the students to ask questions and have the "hands on" experience.

We would like to thank the school for the opportunity to educate the students about our trucks and equipment.

**NOTICE:** The Brooklyn office will be closed on Tuesday, July 18 from 7:00 am till Noon for an all-employee meeting.

**Pay Your Bill by Check, Debit or Credit Card. Log on to [www.tiprec.com](http://www.tiprec.com) and Click on the blue Pay Now tab at the top or log into SmartHub or Call 888-999-0275.**

### Non-Discrimination Statement

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**TIPS from T.I.P. is published monthly for members of T.I.P. Rural Electric Cooperative, 612 W. Des Moines St., Brooklyn, Iowa 52211.**