

MAY 2024

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Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

AROUND TOWN

Calendar of Events

MAY 27

Memorial Day Holiday

Our office will be closed in observance.

MAY 29 - AUGUST 20

Summer Fun Run/Walk

Various Hendricks County Parks

4:30 - 6:30 pm

Visit new parks & trails across Hendricks Co. to support the Parks Foundation!

Learn More & Register:

www.bit.ly/3JdvQoJ

JUNE 1

B&O Bicycle Tour

Cardinal Elementary, Brownsburg

7:30 am - 3:00 pm

Choose from 11-, 17-, 25-, 45- and 62-mile loops. After the ride, stick around for lunch & some live music.

Learn More: tinyurl.com/botrail2024

JULY 1-16

Online Board of Directors Voting

Login to SmartHub to cast your vote!

Voting ends July 16 at midnight.

JULY 18

Annual Meeting & Member Appreciation

Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds

11 am - 7 pm

Join us for our board of directors election, live line safety and electric vehicle demos, Silly Safaris animal shows, face painting, and balloon animals!

Learn more at:

hendrickspower.com/annualmeeting

ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

National Electrical Safety Month

Safety Tips For Your Family & Home

Each May, Hendricks Power celebrates National Electrical Safety Month. While safety for our members is a top priority year-round, Electrical Safety Month is a time to acknowledge the importance of safety and prevention.

This year, we're focusing on electrical safety in the home. According to the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI), electricity causes over 140,000 fires each year, resulting in more than 500 deaths, 4,000 injuries, and 1.6 billion in property damage.

There are many measures you can take to ensure the safety of your loved ones. Use these helpful tips to safeguard your home.

Kitchen Safety

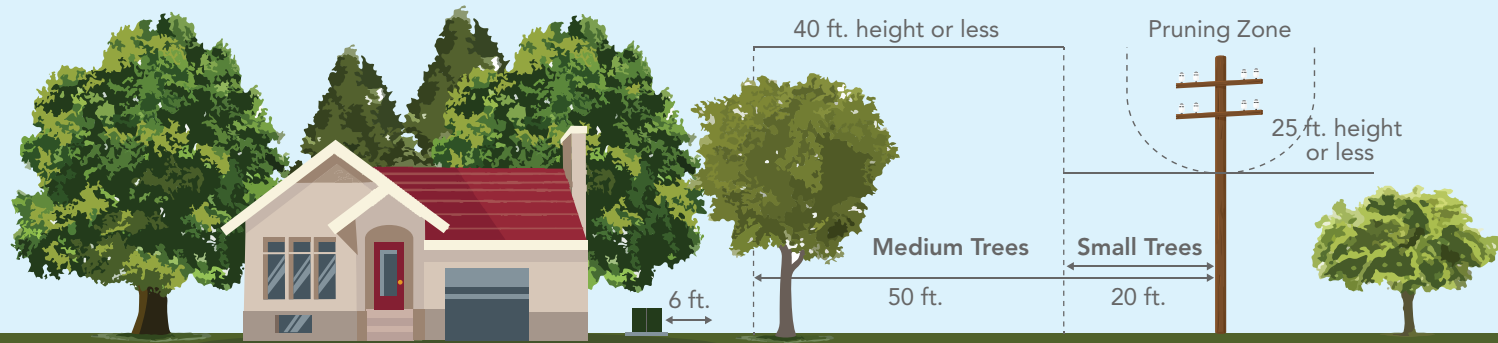
- Vacuum refrigerator coils every three months to eliminate dirt buildup that can reduce efficiency and create fire hazards.
- Ensure all countertop appliances are away from the sink.
- All appliance cords should be away from hot surfaces. Pay particular attention to cords around toasters, ovens, and ranges. Cords can be easily damaged by excess heat, posing a significant fire hazard if not properly managed.

Essential Fire Safety

- Regularly clean out your dryer vent. Lint is easy to ignite.
- Test smoke alarms every month. Batteries should be replaced at least once a year — or sooner if indicated in the manufacturers' instructions.
- All smoke alarms should be replaced at least every 10 years.
- Talk to your family about an emergency plan for a fire in your home. If you have small children, include them in planning an emergency escape route — they are more likely to remember the plan if they're involved in creating it.

PLAN BEFORE YOU PLANT

Tips For Safely Planting Trees Near Power Lines



- Call 811 to have underground utilities marked at least a few working days, but no less than two full working days, before digging (IC 8-1-26). Knowing their locations helps you dig safely, and planting a safe distance away will help prevent damage from roots.
- Create a basic plan, or a sketched diagram, before planting to avoid future troubles. Using the information from the underground utility locator service will be a big help in setting some guidelines.
- When choosing a tree's location, consider its potential growth. If it is expected to grow above 15 feet, choose a spot 25 to 50 feet away from utility lines and your home.
- Plant with energy savings in mind. Not only can you upgrade your landscape, you can decrease your energy use. Trees can keep your home cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Just be sure you're aware of the power line location and avoid structural damage.
- Call Hendricks Power (317) 745-5473 if you need help trimming a tree away from the power lines. This will keep you and everyone around you much safer.

SAFE & SOUND ABOVE GROUND

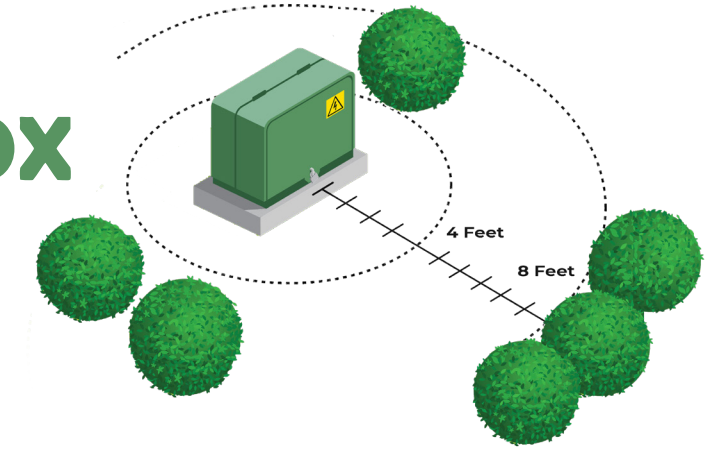
Buried utilities are just below the surface.

Know what's below. 811 Before you dig.

Call 811 or visit 811now.com

Indiana 811

Beautifying your BIG GREEN BOX



Many members have pad-mounted transformers in their yards. These "big green boxes" can usually be found in your front yard, especially in subdivisions or neighborhoods. These transformers play a big part in making sure everyone in your neighborhood has electricity. Many people don't know that during outages and maintenance, our crews need to access the inside of the transformer. These boxes house dangerous high-voltage equipment that requires 8' clearance in the front and 4' around the sides. We know transformer boxes can make landscaping and beautifying your front yard a bit of a challenge. Here are a few helpful suggestions that won't extend outages or interfere with maintenance.

Do's

Do plant a variety of colorful flowering ground-cover plants. Some of our favorite low-maintenance types include the **Creeping Phlox** or the **Lithodora**.

Do look for perennials that offer coverage and height, but keep your transformer open. Bushes or woody plants with hard stems should be avoided as they will need to be transplanted. A few of our suggestions include classic **Tulips, Gladiolus, and Irises**. Try **Lily of the Valley** if you want a plant that will last longer.

Don'ts

Don't use **artificial boulders** to completely cover your transformer.

Don't plant bushes, trees, or any **woody plants with hard stems or stalks**. These plants will need to be transplanted, which can result in extended outages.

Don't place decorative **fences or gates**.

Our crew needs to be able to locate and access your transformer whenever an outage arises.

Photos courtesy of Start at Home Decor, 99 Architects, and Fast Rocks

ANNUAL MEETING & MEMBER APPRECIATION

ANNUAL MEETING
SAVE THE DATE!
THURSDAY, JULY 18
 CHECK YOUR MAIL FOR YOUR INVITE!



Save the date for this year's Hendricks Power Annual Meeting and Member Appreciation Event! Enjoy safety demonstrations, face painting, balloon animals, Silly Safaris animal shows, and our Board of Directors election. Cast your vote for your Board of Directors by voting on SmartHub or at our annual meeting.

hendrickspower.com/annualmeeting | (317) 745-5473

CAPITAL CREDIT UPDATE

Capital Credits

The Hendricks Power Board of Directors will soon complete the annual review of Capital Credits. As a reminder, be sure to keep your member record information up-to-date. If a life event has occurred, such as a spouse's death, divorce, name change, move, or change of telephone number notify the Cooperative's Capital Credit team at (317) 745-5473 ext. 4008 or 1-800-876-5473 ext. 4008. Stay tuned next month for more details regarding Capital Credits.

