

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

P.O. Box 1335, 3230 N. 14th Ave.
Dodge City, KS 67801
620-227-2139
www.victoryelectric.net

THE VICTORY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

electronews



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FROM THE MANAGER

Save Money with Load Control Program

Electricity is a staple in our daily life. With the simple flip of a switch, a light is expected to shine. Considerable effort is given to ensure there is an adequate and reliable power supply to meet your needs.

With temperatures rising as we move further into summer, Victory Electric and our suppliers often face the challenge of providing an adequate supply of power to meet members' increasing needs. It is during these few months that we typically reach or even exceed peak demand levels based on member usage.

Anytime your household and family members are consuming electricity, it is known as "load." There are times when the system reaches its peak, which is when all of our members, all at once, are using the most electricity. This peak usually occurs between 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Victory Electric wants to help you conserve energy and save money. On hot days when the temperature rises above 98 degrees, there is a possibility that we will reach peak load. We have created radio messages to inform you, the member, when we have reached peak load.

A warning sound and message will play on radio stations 97.3FM, 95.5FM, 96.3FM, 93.9FM, 92.9FM, 98.1FM, 101.5FM and Spanish stations 105.9FM and 106.7FM. These messages will let you know that Victory is in a peak load situation and to start conserving energy.

Peak load is monitored closely to determine the amount of power required to fulfill this demand. This peak load is the determining factor in establishing the

Continued on page 16-B ▶



Terry Janson

“Victory Electric wants to help you conserve energy and save money.”



Happy 4th of July from all of us at Victory Electric!



Stake Energy Vampires with Smart Strips

In an average home, 5 percent to 8 percent of electric use stems from “energy vampires”— devices that use power even when turned off. Smart power strips help you unplug energy-draining devices when not in use easily.

There are typically three different types of outlets on a smart strip:



The blue outlet serves as a control plug (ideal for a TV or computer).



Devices plugged into red outlets stay on—electricity to these receptacles never cuts off, making them perfect for satellite boxes and other items that need constant power.



Remaining outlets, often green or neutral in color, are sensitive to current flowing through the blue outlet. Turning off a device plugged into the blue outlet cuts power to items connected to these outlets.

Smart strips are available online or at specialty electronic retailers and generally cost \$20 or more depending on their size.

Source: Cooperative Research Network, Bits Ltd.

Manager's Message

Continued from page 16-A ▶

yearly rates at which the cooperative has to buy its power. By helping to keep the maximum electric load down, you can help your cooperative save on the cost of its total purchased power. This, in turn, means lower costs on electric bills for our members.

The single biggest step you can make is turning up your air conditioning 5 degrees and using a fan. Other ways you can help is to do your cooking, vacuuming, laundry and running the dishwasher in the morning or after seven in the evening. Also, covering south, east and west windows prevents the sun from warming your house so your air conditioner

will run less.

Small things like grilling outside and running your pool pump and filtering system in the morning and late evening can also make a big difference.

Peak load situations are not expected and are typically only temporary. Your help in watching energy usage during the specified time will certainly help in alleviating the situation.

By working together and voluntarily reducing electric usage, Victory will be able to continue to provide the best service possible in the summer.

‘Til Next Time, TJ

Victory Cooks for Relay for Life

Ten Victory Electric employees spent the afternoon on June 10, grilling 600 hamburgers for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event.

“We were glad to help out with Relay for Life,” said Jerry King, Victory Electric director of marketing and communications. “It is such a worthy and inspiring cause and we were honored to help.”

In addition to grilling the hamburgers, Victory employees also served the meal to the survivors and participants.



Victory Electric employees grill burgers for Relay for Life. Top photo: Jarod Scheve (l) and Jerry King (r). Bottom photo: Rob Henry (l) Steve Jimmerson (m) and Larry Schneweis (r).



Friend of the Cooperative Passes

Minneola resident **ORLANDO R. JANTZ**, 75, passed on May 24, 2011.

Jantz was a respected and dear friend of the cooperative. As a minister, he was always willing to give the invocation at Victory's Electric's Annual Meeting.

Terry Janson, general manager, wrote the following passage about his friend.

"From the first time I met Orlando Jantz, I knew he was a very bright man, but soon realized he had a quality that far exceeded any personal characteristic a person could have. That characteristic was kindness and compassion. Orlando was one of the kindest, most compassionate people I ever knew. He became a friend about 15 years ago out of necessity, because Victory needed someone to stand before our members and open our annual meeting with a prayer. Out of that necessity, a friendship was created between Orlando and myself.

My father's cousin, Bill Cornelson, had a son-in-law named Orlando Jantz who had just moved back to the

farm with his wife, my cousin Naomi. I took the opportunity to make the call and ask Orlando for his help, thinking I could use the family connection if needed, but it wasn't necessary because he graciously agreed to help. It was a start to a friendship that will last forever. The friendship grew and he became a valued friend of the cooperative and as well as a friend to many of our employees. Orlando's kindness and caring spirit just consumed people and made you want to be his friend. Orlando was truly a wonderful and caring person and I am so fortunate to have known his friendship. We will miss him."

He is survived by his wife, Naomi; three daughters, Deanna Naumann of Denver, CO, Denise Franklin and husband, Kendall, of Bourbonnais, IL, Charlene Janzen and husband, Travis, of Cimarron KS; 1 brother, Kenneth Jantz of Placentia, CA.; 2 sisters, Virginia Luthi of Great Bend, KS, and Frances Jantz Wade of Denver, CO; and six grandchildren.

Jantz was a minister, farmer,



Orlando Jantz, at 2011 Victory Electric Annual Meeting

woodworker and longtime southwest Kansas resident. He was a member of the First Church of the Nazarene of Dodge City, and was also the pastor for the Bucklin and Kingsdown Presbyterian Churches before he passed. He had been in the pastorate for 50 years and had been pastor of churches in Ulysses, Sylvia and Stafford, Kan., and Greeley and Pueblo, CO. He was also a longtime school bus driver for Minneola schools.



Dodge City Community College, IBEW Local 304,
and the regional electric co-ops present

Lineman Boot Camp

We challenge YOU to see if you have what it takes to be a power lineman!

All equipment & tools provided
Learn basic skills • Safety procedures • Team work • Respect •
Basic knots • Pole climbing skills

WHEN: July 30 & 31, 2011 • 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Lunch provided)
WHERE: Dodge City Community College Tech Center
2501 N. 14th Ave • Dodge City KS 67801

TO REGISTER CALL: (800) 367-3222 or (620)227-9222
First come first paid basis • Maximum: 22 students
COST: \$50.00 for both days

Insurance Coverage is Members' Responsibility

We are often asked by members who have had damage or loss during a power outage if their loss is somehow covered by Victory Electric's insurance.

The answer is always the same; we have no way of insuring our members from the effects of outages which are beyond our control and are always going to be part of providing electrical service.

Although we try to provide the most reliable service possible and have an excellent record of reliability, some outages must be expected. Weather, vehicle accidents, birds, animals, falling trees and a variety of other causes will continue to create outages and inconveniences for all of us.

These outages are not only expensive and inconvenient for you, but they are also extremely expensive for your cooperative to correct. This leaves you with the burden of insuring yourself for these occurrences which are caused by nature or otherwise. You should consider having adequate insurance to cover such incidents.

There are many things you can do to help eliminate potential problems. It is absolutely essential to have proper protection on electric motors, an alarm system to notify you of an outage, and possibly a standby generator.

We intend to keep doing our best to prevent service interruptions, but we urge you to consider having proper insurance protection for those occasions when the unexpected happens.

Protect Your Home

Electrical Surge Protection for Electrical and Electronic Equipment

Today more than ever, your world depends upon digital microprocessor-controlled equipment. Whether you are using your computer equipment or enjoying your favorite movie on your television and VCR, the quality of your power is critical.

What is a Surge?

A surge is a sudden, very short duration increase in voltage. Though usually small and unnoticed by you, over time these surges can be damaging to your sensitive electronic equipment. In an average home, these small surges can occur many times a day.

Can Voltage Surges Be Created by Equipment in My Home or Business?

Yes, refrigerators, freezers, furnaces, copier machines, laser printers, hair dryers, dishwashers, vacuum cleaners, and power tools—just to name a few—are responsible for creating surges.

What Other Situations Can Cause Voltage Surges?

Surges created by a storm or single lightning strike near your home can cause a great amount of damage to electrical equipment. Surges can also be created by animals and fallen tree limbs on power lines and utility pole damage due to auto accidents. These situations can cause surges to enter your home through telephone, CATV or power lines.

What Can I Do to Protect My Equipment from Voltage Surge Damage?

You can start with installing a "circuit panel" or "service entrance" style surge protector (also referred to as a surge suppression device or TVSS) in your home. This will substantially reduce harmful surges entering your building through power lines and

help to protect electrical equipment such as ranges, water heaters, washers and dryers, dishwashers and motors. A qualified electrician or your local utility can ensure proper installation. Proper installation is key, because even the best surge protector in the world is useless unless it is correctly installed.

But don't stop here! To further protect your electronic equipment against surge damage you need to install a surge protection device within 15 feet of that equipment. This can be accomplished with a simple plug-in unit or one that wires directly to your equipment.

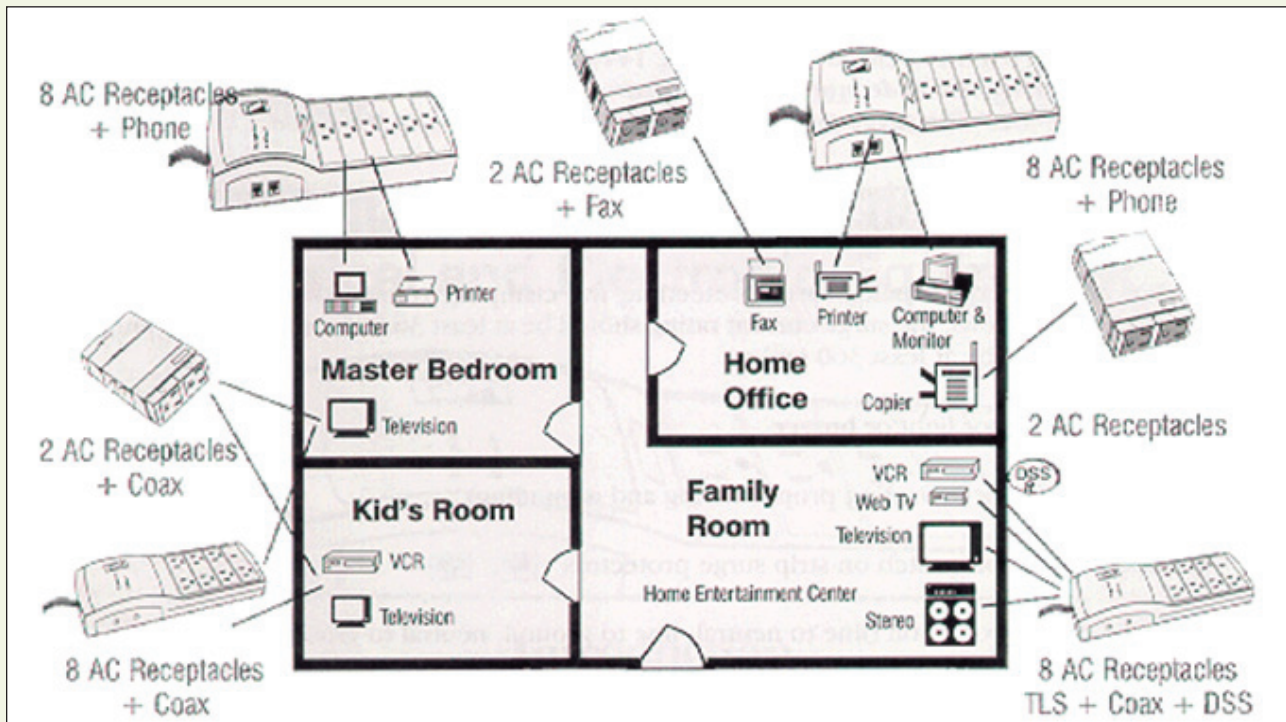
Therefore, your best protection against voltage surge damage is to install a "circuit panel" or "service entrance" style surge protector in your home and a separate surge protection device within 15 feet of electronic equipment.

Once I've Protected My Electrical Circuits, I'm Protected—Right?

Not necessarily. Damaging surges can enter your home through phone and cable circuits just as easily as power lines. The same rule applies as before: protect your phone and cable cords within 15 feet of your equipment. At locations within the home that do combine electric power with either cable television or telephone connections (such as a modem that plugs into a wall), make sure that the surge protector also combines these elements.

Should I Be Concerned about the Quality of My Electrical Grounding?

Yes. A surge protection device is only as effective as the electrical grounding circuit that is made available to it. Surge protection devices divert surge current to grounding wires in your



This diagram is designed to help you select the right surge protection for your specific needs. (illustration provided by PSP Products, Inc.)

home and then ultimately to earth where they are safely diverted away from your equipment.

Since My Grounding Is So Important, How Do I Know If It Is Adequate?

A qualified electrician or your local utility can make that determination for you. Since most permanently wired surge protectors will require an electrician for installation, this may be a good time to have your grounding examined. Additionally, surge protection strips are only effective if used on three-prong (grounded) outlets.

Are All Surge Protectors the Same?

No. Like most products, surge protectors vary in quality. Careful attention must be paid to how a surge protector meets your requirements. Read the information on the box carefully and consult the checklist that follows.

What Should I Look for When Purchasing Surge Protection Products?

Look for surge protection devices that carry a "UL 1449" label. Surge protectors also carry a "joule" and/or

"surge-current" rating. The higher the rating of these two categories, the better is the quality of the internal surge-stopping components. Another important performance characteristic is the "clamping voltage." This is the voltage that the surge protector will let through to your equipment before it diverts it to ground (a lower clamping voltage is better—see checklist for recommendations). A quality device will have status lights that will display correct input wiring configuration and failure indicator lights or buzzers to signify whether the device is working properly.

How Much Should I Pay for a Surge Protection Device?

Expect to pay about \$45–\$100 for a higher quality eight-outlet plug strip with an internal phone protector. Stay away from those \$8 specials. A residential circuit panel-mounted surge protector of higher quality will cost in excess of \$100.

Do Surge Protectors Last Forever?

No.

How Do I Know That It's Time for a Replacement?

A variety of conditions can indicate that it is time to replace surge protectors. Two of the most prevalent signals are a failure indicator light going off and/or a buzzer sounding. Some surge protection strips are also designed to permanently turn off upon failure.

What Equipment Do I Have That Needs Surge Protection?

This first step in protecting your home is to conduct a walk-through inventory of your sensitive equipment. Then, determine which of the items that you want to protect. See the figure regarding whole house surge protection choices for examples of typical equipment that need surge protection.

Where Can I Get More Assistance in Purchasing Surge Protection?

Call your local utility first. Their personnel can provide information about proper selection, installation and use.

Employees Complete Course



Ryan Miller (r)



Sandy Long (r)

Victory Electric employees Ryan Miller and Sandy Long recently completed Leadership Dodge.

Leadership Dodge is a program hosted by the Dodge City Chamber of Commerce. The goal of the program is to train and educate the future leaders of the community. Class members visit various sites around the community, including the meat packing plant, schools and educational system, law enforcement, economic development, among others.

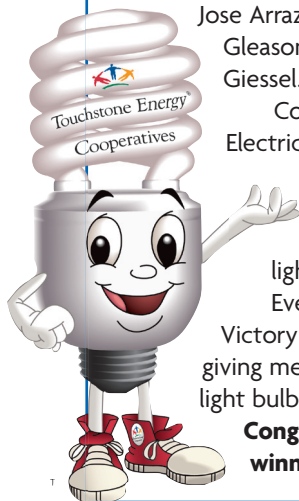
Congratulations Ryan and Sandy.

CFL Charlie Says "Come Get Your Free CFL Bulb!"

This month's lucky winners are... James Toews, Steve Thompson, Jack Kersteing, Hilario Gallegos, Juan Galvan, Jan Ackerman, Jose Arrazolo, Ronnie Gleason and Paul Giessel.

Come by Victory Electric Cooperative and get your free compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL). Every month, Victory Electric will be giving members free CFL light bulbs.

Congratulations winners!



Proteja Su Hogar

Protección de Sobre Voltaje Eléctrica para Aparatos Eléctricos y Electrónicos

Hoy más que nunca, el mundo depende de equipos digitales controlados por microprocesadores. Quizás estén utilizando su equipo de computadora o disfrutando de su película favorita en un televisor y VCR, la calidad de su poder es crítico.

¿Qué es un sobre voltaje?

Un sobre voltaje es repentino, de corta duración de voltaje. Aunque generalmente pequeñas y desapercibido por usted, con el tiempo pueden causar daño a sus equipos electrónicos sensibles. En un hogar, el promedio de las pequeñas cargas de sobre voltaje pueden ocurrir muchas veces al día.

Puede Sobre Voltaje Ser Creada Por Equipo En Mi Casa o Negocio?

Sí, refrigeradores, congeladores, hornos, máquinas de fotocopiadora, impresoras láser, secadores de pelo, lavavajillas, aspiradoras, y herramientas eléctricas por nombrar unos cuantos son responsables de crear sobre voltaje.

Que otras situaciones pueden causar sobre voltaje?

Sobre voltaje creado por una tormenta o solo un rayo cerca de su casa puede causar una gran cantidad de daño a equipo eléctrico. También se pueden crear por animales y ramas de

árboles caídos en líneas de energía y daños a los postes de utilidad debido a accidentes automovilísticos. Estas situaciones pueden causar sobrecargas y entrar a su casa a través de teléfono, CATV, o líneas eléctricas.

¿Qué Puedo Hacer para Proteger Mi Equipo de Daños de Aumento de Sobre Voltaje?

Puede comenzar con la instalación de un grupo de "circuito" o "servicio de entrada"

Proyector de aumento (también conocido como un dispositivo de aumento de la represión o TVSS) en su hogar. Esto reducirá sustancialmente cargas perjudiciales sobre voltaje entrar en su edificio a través de líneas eléctricas y ayuda a proteger equipos eléctricos como cocina, calentadores de agua, lavadoras y secadoras, lavavajillas y motores. Un electricista calificado o su utilidad local pueden asegurar una instalación adecuada. La instalación adecuada es la clave porque incluso el mejor protector de sobre voltaje en el mundo es inútil si no es correctamente instalado.

Pero no se detenga aquí! Para proteger aún más sus equipos electrónicos contra daños de sobre voltaje, necesita instalar dispositivo de protector de aumento dentro de quince pies de ese equipo. Esto se puede lograr

Cobertura de Seguro es Responsabil

Con frecuencia nos preguntan los miembros que han tenido daños o pérdida durante un apagón si su pérdida de alguna manera está cubierta por el Seguro de Victory Electric.

La respuesta es siempre la misma, no tenemos forma de asegurar a nuestros miembros por los efectos

de las interrupciones que están fuera de nuestro control y siempre va a ser parte del servicio eléctrico.

Aunque intentamos ofrecer el servicio más confiable posible y tener un excelente registro de confiabilidad, se deben esperar algunas interrupciones. El clima, accidentes de vehículos,



con una simple conexión o cables directamente a su equipo. Por lo tanto, la mejor protección contra daño de sobre voltaje es instalar un “circuito” o “servicio de entrada” protección en su hogar y un dispositivo de protección de sobre voltaje y un separado dispositivo de sobre voltaje dentro de quince pies de equipo electrónico.

¿Una vez protegido mi circuito eléctrico estoy protegido?

No necesariamente. El daño de sobre voltaje se puede introducir en su hogar a través de circuitos de teléfono y cable fácilmente como las líneas de energía. La misma regla aplica como antes: proteja los cables de teléfono con quince pies de equipo de cable. En ubicaciones dentro de la casa que combinan la energía eléctrica con cable televisión o conexiones telefónicas (por ejemplo, una que se conecta a un muro), asegúrese de que el protector de sobre voltaje también combine con estos elementos.

Debo Estar Preocupado Por La Calidad De Conexión De Tierra Eléctrica?

Sí. Un dispositivo de sobre voltaje sólo es tan eficaz como el circuito eléctrico de tierra que está a disposición. Protección de sobre voltaje desvían la corriente de tensión para con los cables de conexión de tierra en su hogar y por último a la tierra donde son seguros se desvían lejos de su equipo.

Como Mi Conexión De Tierra Es Importante, Come Sé

Que Es Adecuado?

Un electricista calificado o su utilidad local pueden hacer esa determinación por usted.

Dado que protectores de sobre voltaje requiere a un electricista para instalar, puede ser un buen tiempo para examinar su conexión de tierra. Además, tiras de protección de sobre voltaje sólo son eficaces si se utiliza en puntos de salidas de tres-clavijas.

Todos Los Protectores De Sobre Voltaje Son Iguales?

No. Como la mayoría de los productos, los protectores de sobre voltaje varían en calidad. Debe prestarse especial atención a cómo un protector cumple con sus requerimientos. Lea detenidamente la información en la caja y consulte la lista de verificación que sigue.

¿Qué Debo Buscar Cuando Compró Productos De Protección De Aumento?

Buscar dispositivos de protección que lleven una etiqueta “UL 1449”. Protectores de sobre voltaje llevan un “julio” o la calificación de “sobre voltaje. Más alta la calificación, mejor es la calidad de los componentes internos. Otro desempeño importante de rendimiento es la tensión de “voltaje de sujeción”.

Se trata de la tensión de sobre voltaje permitirá a través de su equipo antes de desviar la conexión de tierra una tensión (inferior de sujeción es mejor ver lista de comprobación para las recomendaciones).

Un dispositivo de calidad tendrá

luces en posesión que muestra correctamente la entrada de alambres configurando el indicador de fallo de luces o ruidos como señales si el dispositivo está trabajando correctamente.

¿Cuánto Debo Pagar Por Un Dispositivo De Protección De Sobre Voltaje?

Espere pagar unos \$45-100 para una escape de ocho - calidad superior-franja de enchufe con un protector de teléfono interno. Manténgase alejado de los especiales de \$8. Un circuito residencial de mayor calidad costará más de \$100.

Protectores Duran Para Siempre?

No.

¿Cómo Sé Cuando Es El Momento Para Un Reemplazo

Una variedad de condiciones pueden indicar que es tiempo de reemplazar el protector de sobre voltaje.

Dos de las señales frecuentes es un indicador de fallo luz y un sonido de timbre. Algunas tiras de protection de sobre voltaje se apagan cuando hay fallo.

Que Equipo Tengo Que Necesita Protección?

Este primer paso en la protección de su hogar es llevar a cabo un inventario de equipo. A continuación, determinar cuál de los elementos desea proteger. Consulte la figura con respecto a opciones de protección para ver ejemplos de equipo que necesitan protección de sobre voltaje.

Responsabilidad de los Miembros

aves, animales, caída de árboles y una variedad de otras causas seguirán creando las interrupciones e inconvenientes para todos nosotros.

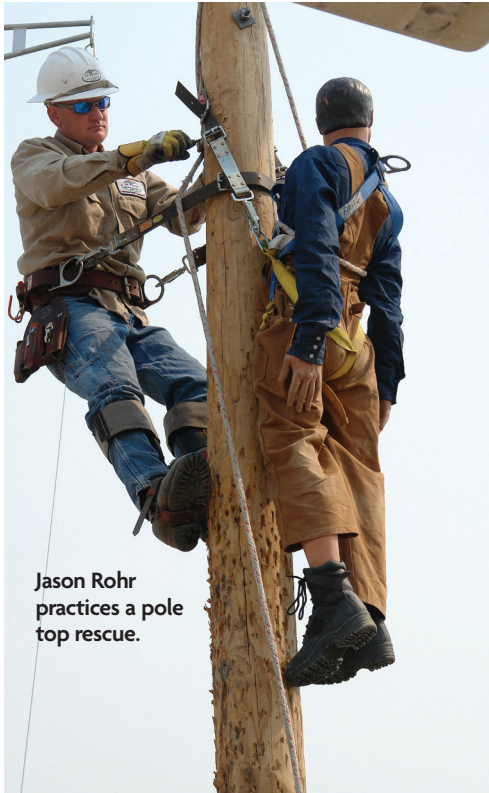
Estas interrupciones no sólo son caras e inconvenientes para usted, pero también son extremadamente caras para su cooperativa corregir. Esto le deja con la carga de asegurar

usted mismo para estas apariciones que son causados por la naturaleza o de otro tipo. Cada uno de ustedes debe considerar tener adecuadamente seguro para cubrir esos incidentes.

Hay muchas cosas que puede hacer para ayudar a eliminar posibles problemas. Es absolutamente necesario tener protección

adecuada de motores eléctricos, un sistema de alarma para informarle de una interrupción y posible un generador de reposo. Seguiremos haciendo nuestro mejor esfuerzo para evitar interrupciones en el servicio, pero le instamos a considerar tener protección de seguro para las ocasiones cuando ocurre lo inesperado.





Jason Rohr practices a pole top rescue.

Victory Electric Linemen Practice Pole Top Rescue

Every year, linemen practice the technique of rescuing a disabled person from atop a pole. This mandatory Pole Top Rescue training simulates methods and precautions to rescue a fellow lineman if an accident were to occur. The linemen must lower a life-like mannequin to the ground, safely and within a set time limit.

A life-size mannequin is placed on a pole, and the lineman must climb the pole with only his usual tools and a hand line and lower the 200 lb mannequin to the ground safely.

All who have practiced this training hope that they never have to use it, but it is good to know that your fellow workers have the ability to get you down if something were to happen.



David Gechter rescues a training dummy from the top of a electric pole.

DON'T MESS WITH YOUR SAFETY!

CALL VICTORY ELECTRIC'S ELECTRICIAN SERVICE TODAY!



If you are worried about your safety or have an electrical problem, Victory Electric's Electrician Service is here to meet your needs. Our qualified electricians do residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural work. Call Jim Mies today for more information.

620-227-2139 OR 800-279-7915