



SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT

It takes a team to power a community. From lineworkers to member service representatives, to administrative professionals—every single employee's job is important in the team and so is his/her safety.

A culture of safety is about shared values and attitudes. It's about open communication lines and accountability. It means every single person plays a vital role in being responsible for safety and taking action to correct unsafe behaviors. Doing a job safely is an important part of doing it well.

Lineworkers must commit to safety above all else. They spend numerous hours in safety trainings each year and must understand and apply crucial safety regulations to their work each and every day.

Electrical lineworkers are specially trained to:

- Climb poles to service power lines in areas inaccessible by trucks.
- Stand in an elevated bucket to assess and repair overhead lines.
- Install poles, overhead lines and other equipment.
- Work on both energized and deenergized lines.
- Install and service underground lines.

Protective clothing is required to shield lineworkers since they work around high voltages. Equipment such as insulating

gloves, blankets, and sleeves are important safety items lineworkers use. These items protect against electrical shocks while working on power lines. Recently, CVEC's items were tested to ensure the equipment is safe and does not need to be replaced. The tests on this equipment help keep our crews protected while they work to keep your lights on. Collectively, gear components can weigh up to 45 pounds.

Our entire team at CVEC is Adult First Aid and CPR and AED certified. With a half-million cardiac arrests occurring each year, CPR increases the likelihood of surviving cardiac arrest, when the heart stops beating or beats too ineffectively to circulate blood to the brain and other vital organs. CPR is not just for healthcare workers and emergency responders. CPR can double or triple the chance of survival when bystanders take action.

CVEC prides itself in taking the necessary steps to keep our crews and employees safe; in turn allowing them to provide safe and reliable power to our members lives.



CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES

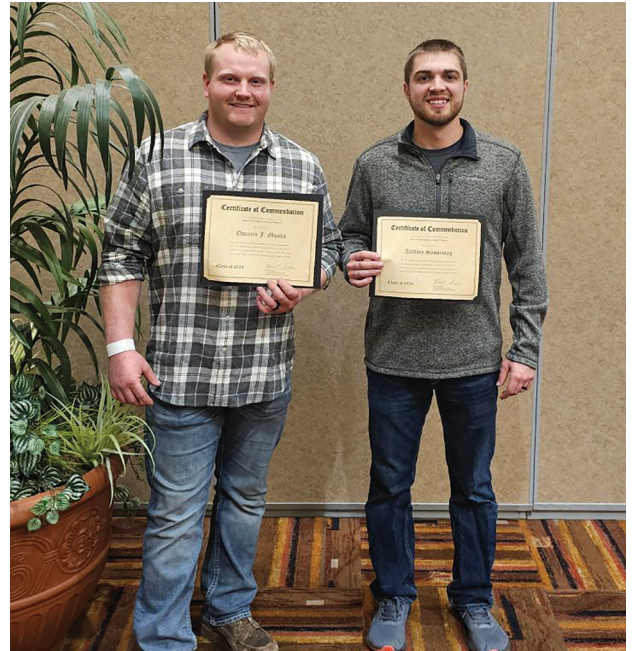
SONNENTAG AND MUSKA EARN JOURNEYMAN LINEMAN CERTIFICATION

Zach Sonnentag and Quentin Muska were recently recognized for completing their line worker apprenticeships.

Quentin is still working to finish up the last of his hours, which will be completed before the end of the year, and Zach has completed his hours and is officially a Journeyman Lineman.

Both Zach and Quentin have been with CVEC for over four years. Apprentice lineworkers attend regular classroom instruction in safety, electrical theory, circuitry, transformer connections, and more throughout their apprenticeship. Completing the training, instruction and becoming a journeyman lineman requires that you work full time for 8,000 hours and complete a test (which both Zach and Quentin have already passed)!

Please help us congratulate them on this achievement! We are so proud to have them on our team!



WHAT DOES A LINEWORKER DO?

On any given day or night, in all kinds of weather conditions, lineworkers install and maintain overhead and underground electrical systems.

We entrust our lineworkers with your safety, so they hold a very important job. We also rely on their expertise to power our world.

SAFETY COMES FIRST

Lineworkers must commit to safety above all else for the benefit of those they serve (you!), fellow crew members and themselves. They spend thousands of hours in safety trainings each year and must learn and apply numerous safety regulations.

THEY ARE SPECIALLY TRAINED TO:

- Climb poles to service power lines in areas inaccessible by trucks.
- Stand in an elevated bucket to assess and repair overhead lines.
- Install poles, overhead lines and other equipment.
- Work on both energized and deenergized lines.
- Install and service underground lines.

 **Safe
Electricity.org®**





LINEWORKER APPRECIATION DAY April 14, 2025



At Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative, we're powered by more than just electricity; we're powered by the dedication and hard work of our lineworkers. These skilled professionals are the backbone of our energy infrastructure, ensuring that our members have reliable access to electricity year round.

On Lineworker Appreciation Day, we take a moment to shine a spotlight on these members of our team, celebrating their contributions to keeping the lights on. Rain or shine, their commitment to serving our communities doesn't waiver. Next time you see a lineman, please thank them for their exceptional service.

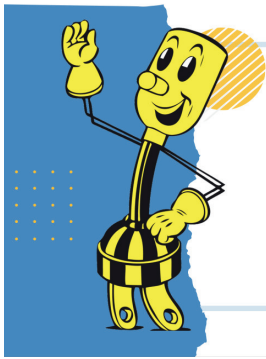
Back row: Nic Alberson, Operations Manager—16 Years; Kyle Glaus—2 years; Dan Ferris—34 years; Trevin Jensen—4 years; Quentin Muska—4 years; Zach Sonnentag—5 years; Chris Larson—11 years; Greg Olmstead—6 years. Front row: Eric Zurakowski—2 years; Ed Rosseter—7 years; Tyler Jones—6 years; Ben Modl—6 years. Missing Kevin Scheidler, Line Superintendent.

WHO RECOGNIZES THIS MEMBER OF OUR CVEC TEAM?

We had to go WAY back in the archives to find this one, but it was worth the hunt.

Help us celebrate Kevin Scheidler, our CVEC Line Superintendent, he hit an impressive 25 years of helping to keep the lights on for our members on March 1. We are so grateful to have him on our team.





Your Cooperative **CVEC** Powering Your Future *Sparks*
CO-OP NEWS
CELEBRATING OUR CO-OP COMMUNITY!

Thank You for Attending our 88th CVEC Annual Meeting

We had a great turnout for our 88th Annual Meeting! Thank you to all our members who attended. Annual Meeting minutes and information will be shared in the May issue of *WECN*.

Thank You

Member Appreciation Picnic

Mark your calendar and be sure to join us on Thursday, June 12! More details to come.



No Foolin': April is Safe Digging Month

Spring showers bring May flowers but digging on your own this spring could spell big trouble. Even if you think you could get lucky or that digging one small hole (or two) won't matter, don't take for granted what lines might lurk beneath the soil in your yard or easement.

Before you use that post hole digger, shovel, or other unearthing tools, STOP and call 8-1-1 to request that buried electric, gas, cable, and other live lines in or near your yard be marked. The service is free but digging in an unmarked yard may not be.

You might think you don't have time for that and ask yourself, what's the worst that could happen?

If you hit a line, you could become seriously injured or even die. Other consequences of blindly digging and taking a chance include causing a power outage, hitting a gas line, possibly losing telephone or internet service if fiber is hit.

Don't be a fool! Take a deep breath, look over your landscaping or fence plans, and call Digger's Hotline at 8-1-1 before you dig.



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Office Hours: Monday, 7:30–4 p.m.
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Rebecca Pehlke, Editor