

P.O. BOX 386, HYSHAM, MT 59038



HIGH VOLTAGE SAFETY DEMONSTRATION

MYEC had a homemade high voltage safety trailer at the Hysham StreetFest on Saturday, August 8. Linemen, Rick Lewis and Daren Reeder, gave demonstrations showing the dangers of contacting overhead and underground electrical lines and electrical equipment attached to those lines.

Where does electricity come from? What kind of kite string is safe to use when flying a kite? How far away do we need to be to fly a kite? What happens when power lines fall in the water? These questions, as well as others, were answered during the demonstrations.

In the U.S, there are approximately 1000 deaths per year, as a result of electrical injuries. Of these, approximately 400 are due to high voltage electrical injuries (www.ncbi.nih.gov).

MYEC feels it is very important to keep our members informed about the hazards of electricity.



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Heating systems need health checkup

In the heat of late summer, it's pretty easy to forget that our household heating system needs to be checked and serviced by a qualified professional. No matter what kind of system you have, a heating system check-up will ensure that it's operating efficiently and safely before the first cool days arrive.

That heating safety check should also include any portable heaters that you may be using. Make sure the cord to a portable electric heater is in good condition and that the switches and controls are all working properly.

If you use a fireplace or wood stove during the winter, have the chimney cleaned and the flues checked out. Taking these simple steps now can help you stay comfortable—and safe—this winter.

And then taking a step outside wouldn't hurt. How safe are the heat tapes and stock tank heaters you used last winter? Do they need to be replaced? How about the heating system you use in the shop? Are any portable heaters used in the shop or other outbuildings? You can see why it is smart and safe to do a complete inspection of inside and outside heating appliances. And—as that saying goes—there's no time like the present to get started.

HOUSEHOLD ENERGY TIPS BROUGHT TO YOU BY

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Avoid air infiltration

Air that transfers in and out of homes through cracks, crevices and holes increases energy consumption. Here are some helpful tips to avoid air infiltration:

- Seal around pipe penetrations coming through walls.
- During hot and cold weather, ensure windows are closed tightly and locked.
- Ensure weather-stripping around doors and windows is tight.
- When your fireplace is not operating, its flue should be closed tightly, with a sign hanging from the flue handle warning it is closed.
- Check the ceiling behind the cornice of built-in bookshelves for holes cut during construction.
- Attic access stairways should fit tightly into the ceiling and be carefully weather-stripped using insulated sheathing board.
- Remove the whole-house fan if not used and seal and insulate.
- Make sure your outside dryer vent door closes when the dryer is not in use. This requires cleaning away lint accumulation periodically.

Whether it's on the farm or in the city, there's something inspirational about common folk banding together to work as a community to better their lives. That's what we call the cooperative way.

COOPERATIVE-

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UPGRADE YOUR LIGHTING

Take a look at your home's lighting. Consider these points:

- An LED light uses 1/5th the energy of incandescent lighting and lasts up to 50 times longer. Consider replacing incandescent lighting with energysaving LEDs. They use about one quarter of the energy, last much longer and give off less heat.
- LED lights have different colors, soft white or 3,000 K bulbs are best for indoor use.
- Turn off lights when not needed.
- Don't leave unnecessary lighting on during the day.
- Smart bulbs, outlets and switches allow you to save energy by customizing a schedule that fits your families needs.