



## REMEMBER

### LOOK UP & LIVE

Overhead power distribution lines carry electricity over 7,200 volts. Exposure to electricity at this level can cause extensive damage to equipment and can prove fatal to operators

### CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Always adhere to underground utility marking guidelines. Never attempt to move, support, protect, or repair an exposed utility.

### SPEAK UP, STAY SAFE

Contact the appropriate utility company at the first sign of an exposed or damaged line. Never leave the line unattended.

CCEC is a not-for-profit, member-owned electric distribution system, serving over 55,000 members in a 10-county area in south-eastern ND.

## STAY IN TOUCH



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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



## CONTRACTOR SAFETY

**CCEC Mission:** To serve our members' energy needs with affordable and reliable electricity

**CCEC Core Values:** Safety, Integrity, Innovation, Accountability, and Commitment to Community

[CassCountyElectric.com](http://CassCountyElectric.com)

# UNDERGROUND

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Contact with underground utilities is extremely dangerous! For everyone's safety, please always practice safe digging and take the proper steps to avoid coming into contact with buried lines.

- ALWAYS file a locate request by calling 8-1-1 or visiting [NDonecall.com](http://NDonecall.com). Each contractor needs their own excavation ticket; contractors cannot work off of general contractors' or homeowners tickets.
- Unless otherwise requested, excavation can begin on an excavation ticket when all utilities receiving the excavation ticket have provided a "marked" or "cleared" positive response, or after the work to begin date on the excavation ticket.
- Unless otherwise exempt, site identification is mandatory! Contractors are required to mark the proposed work area with white paint, stakes, or white flags prior to the locate request. Detailed drawings or maps of the work site or excavation route can be attached to the ticket for large or complex locate requests.
- Mechanical excavation is not permitted within 24 inches of either side of the outermost edges of underground facilities. Never use mechanical digging equipment in this hand-dig zone.
- The ticket holder assumes ownership of materials used to mark the facilities and must use reasonable efforts to maintain locate markings during excavation.
- The ticket holder is responsible for removing all flags after completion of the project.

Mistakes happen, and despite strict adherence to marking guidelines, underground utilities may still be exposed. In this situation, use extreme caution!

- Never assume that any underground utility is abandoned. Making this assumption can easily prove to be a fatal mistake.
- Do not, under any circumstance, attempt to move, support, protect, or repair an underground utility in any fashion.
- As soon as the utility line is exposed, play it safe and contact the utility company. They will advise or handle the situation appropriately, allowing contractors and their employees to stay safe and avoid incurring excess expenses.

# OVERHEAD

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- Before working under or near overhead power lines, ensure that you maintain a safe distance from the lines and ground any equipment such as cranes that can become energized.
- If working on power lines, ensure that the lines have been de-energized and grounded by the owner or operator of the lines.
- Other protective measures like guarding or insulating the lines help prevent accidental contact.
- Employees unqualified to work with electricity, as well as mechanical equipment, should remain at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines. If the voltage is more than 50,000 volts, the clearance increases by 4 inches for each additional 10,000 volts.
- When mechanical equipment is operated near overhead lines, employees standing on the ground should stand clear of and avoid contact with the equipment unless it is located outside the danger zone. When factoring the safe standoff distance, be sure to consider the equipment's maximum reach.