

## TOGETHER WE CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES



Summer is here and so is the threat of wildfires. LPEA is hard at work now, and year-round, to ensure we do our part to reduce fire risks. Below are five measures we're taking and three measures **YOU** can take to help prevent wildfires.

### WHAT WE DO

1. Line inspection/maintenance - In addition to visual inspection, we use aerial drones to help inspect LPEA's 2,000 miles of overhead line and 40,000 poles.
2. Raptor protection - We aim to install raptor protection devices on all LPEA infrastructure by 2025. This reduces outages and protects birds, squirrels, raccoons, bears, etc., saving their lives

3. Vegetation management - We maintain vegetation near LPEA's infrastructure regularly. Each year, we trim more than 200 miles of overhead lines, which gives us one of the most aggressive tree-trimming programs in the state.
4. High risk/red flag days - We constantly monitor the weather from our dispatch center. Lineworkers are readily available for quicker response times on holiday weekends and red flag warning days.
5. Education - Many people are unaware of the dangers and hazards of electricity. We offer electric safety demonstrations



## E-bike REBATES

Get the details on this and other rebates by visiting our website at [lpea.coop/rebates](http://lpea.coop/rebates).

for children and first responders. If you'd like to book a demonstration for your class, group, or organization, please contact **Carrie Hugus at [chugus@lpea.coop](mailto:chugus@lpea.coop)**.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. Clear your own brush - The Wildfire Adapted Partnership's (WAP) 2022 Chipper Rebate Program is open until September 30 or until funds are depleted. WAP reimburses homeowners 50% of their chipper use expenses, up to \$250 per household. HOAs or communities that rent chippers or hire contractors to provide chipping services may also qualify for a 50% rebate of up to \$750. **More: [chipper@wildfireadapted.org](mailto:chipper@wildfireadapted.org)**
2. Assess your risk - WAP also offers a Home Wildfire Site Visit to determine your property's wildfire risk and propose mitigative efforts. **More: [wildfireadapted.org/home-wildfire-risk-site-visit](http://wildfireadapted.org/home-wildfire-risk-site-visit)**
3. Research resources - Learn about city and county opportunities to reduce risk through programs like the city's spring and fall clean-up, and potential chipper rebate opportunities. **Contact your city/county office for more details.**

## DON'T LET TRAGEDY STRIKE

**2** of lightning fatalities are associated with outdoor recreational activities.

**30** Around 30 people are killed each year from lightning strikes.

**WAIT 30 minutes**

...after the last rumble of thunder before heading back outside.

### SEEK SHELTER

in a four-sided building or an enclosed hardtop vehicle at the first sight of lightning.

Never swim when lightning is in the area.

### TOP 3 sports-related lightning fatalities.

1) Soccer 2) Golf 3) Running

**LPEA**

# CONGRATULATIONS TO LPEA'S 2022 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

These nine local high school students were selected out of 56 applicants to receive funding to continue their education. LPEA is honored to empower our future workforce.

## LPEA SCHOLARSHIP (UP TO \$28,000 FOR ANY SCHOOL) AWARDED TO:



**Grace Holst** from Durango High School to study Engineering at George Washington University. *"Receiving this scholarship has not only greatly reduced the financial burden on me but enabled me to enroll at a university that I otherwise may have been unable to attend. I am extremely grateful for this opportunity."*

**Nicholas Huber** from Durango High School to study Engineering at Colorado School of Mines. *"LPEA has opened many doors for me to make a meaningful impact on my community and the world. I will not let this opportunity be wasted."*

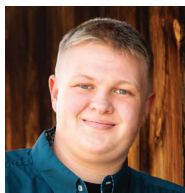


## JOHN VOELKER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP (\$10,000 FOR A VOCATIONAL OR TECH SCHOOL) AWARDED TO:



**Timothy Hittle** from Pagosa Springs High School to study Business at Colorado Mesa University. *"This scholarship will give me the financial freedom I need to pursue a meaningful career."*

**Jeremy Roderick** from Ignacio High School to study Fire Science at Iowa Central Community College. *"This scholarship means I will be able to achieve my goals of becoming a firefighter and my dream of playing college football. Thank you to the community of supporters who are helping me get there."*



## LPEA LINEMAN SCHOLARSHIP (\$12,000 FOR TUITION, BOOKS, FEES, AND TOOLS FOR LINE SCHOOL):



**Ryan Elliot** from San Juan Mountain School to study at Colorado Mesa University. *"I plan on being a lineman till the day I retire. This scholarship will help me be one of those people up there supplying electricity to the US."*

**Dutch Revells** from Big Picture High School to study at Western Colorado Community College. *"Knowledge itself is power." – Sir Francis Bacon*



## BASIN ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE SCHOLARSHIP (\$1,000 FOR ANY SCHOOL) AWARDED TO:



**Thomas Pope** from Durango High School to study Chemistry at The University of Texas at Austin. *"This scholarship reminds me that I will always have the Durango community in my corner helping me chase my goals."*

## TRI-STATE G&T SCHOLARSHIP (\$500 FOR ANY SCHOOL) AWARDED TO:

**Grace Martinez** from Durango High School to study Electrical Engineering at Colorado School of Mines. *"I am honored to accept the Tri-State Scholarship. This scholarship will provide me the opportunity to pay for books or fees for classes."*



**Nell Taylor** from Pagosa High School to study Biochemistry at Colorado State University. *"The LPEA Scholarship will greatly facilitate my ability to attend college and delve deeper into the subjects of my passion."*



The latest news, services, programs, and resources from LPEA. Have a question or comment? Email us at [comments@lpea.coop](mailto:comments@lpea.coop).



## BOARD MEETINGS

May 18 + June 15  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.\*

The agenda, access, and location details will be posted online in advance. Public comments are heard at the beginning of the meeting shortly after 9 a.m.

More at: [lpea.coop/lpea-board-directors-resources](http://lpea.coop/lpea-board-directors-resources)



## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

LPEA committee meetings change regularly to accommodate board member schedules. For upcoming meeting dates and times visit: [lpea.coop/board-committees](http://lpea.coop/board-committees)

*\*All meetings are open to the public. Depending on the latest guidelines around COVID-19, meetings may be held in person, virtually, or both. Visit [lpea.coop](http://lpea.coop) for the most up-to-date details.*



## LPEA CLOSURES

Training: Thursday, June 2  
Independence Day: Monday, July 4



## LPEA GRANTS

The Round Up Foundation Board of Directors approved five grants **totaling \$14,700 in April**. Approved Round Up Grants were for 4 The Children, Durango Cowboy Gathering, and Southwest Civic Winds. Approved Educational Grants were for DURANGO PLAYFEST and Manna Soup Kitchen.