

ONLY WE CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES

Fire season is here in Southwest Colorado, and LPEA is hard at work ensuring we do our part to reduce fire risks in the months ahead. Below are five measures we're taking, and three measures you can take, to help prevent wildfires.

WHAT WE DO

1. Line inspection/maintenance - We visually inspect a third of our nearly 3,750 miles of line each year to ensure equipment is updated and working properly.
2. Raptor protection - We aim to install raptor protection devices on all LPEA infrastructure by 2025. This not only reduces outages, but it also protects birds, squirrels, raccoons, bears, etc., saving their lives and preventing fires which may have been caused by their electrocution.
3. Vegetation management - We clear weeds, brush, and trees near LPEA's infrastructure regularly. Tree trimmers rotate through our more than 2,000 miles of overhead line one circuit at a time.
4. High risk/red flag days - LPEA constantly monitors the weather from our dispatch center. On holiday weekends and red flag warning days, more linemen



- are placed on call for quicker response times.
5. Education - Many people are unaware of the dangers and hazards of electricity. LPEA offers table-top electric safety demonstrations for children, and an Arc Demo electric safety demonstration for older kids and adults, including first responders. [If you'd like to book a demonstration for your class, group, or organization, please contact Jeannie Bennett at \[jbennett@lpea.coop\]\(mailto:jbennett@lpea.coop\).](#)

WHAT YOU CAN DO

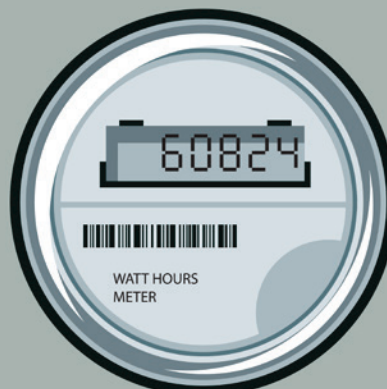
1. Clear your own brush - The Wildfire Adapted Partnership's

- (WAP) 2021 Chipper Rebate Program is open until September 30th, 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
2. Assess your risk - WAP also offers a Home Wildfire Site Visit, to determine your property's wildfire risk, and to propose mitigative efforts. More: wildfireadapted.org
 3. Research resources - Take advantage of city and county offerings for free, or low cost, trash, and brush removal. Contact your city/county office for more details.

DO NOT TAMPER WITH YOUR ELECTRIC METER

Meter tampering can result in electric shock, is illegal, and increases electricity rates for other co-op members.

- ⊘ Never break a meter seal.
- ⊘ Never open a meter base.
- ⊘ Never remove a meter or alter an entrance cable in any manner.



If you know or suspect that someone has tampered with their meter, please contact us immediately.

DID YOU KNOW?

Need to reach us and don't want to wait? Our lowest call volumes are from 7 to 8 a.m. and from 5 to 6 p.m. As a reminder, LPEA's customer service reps are available to serve you from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday.



Give us a call at (970) 247-5786!

CONGRATULATIONS TO LPEA'S 2021 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

These seven local high school students were selected out of 81 applicants to receive funding to continue their education. LPEA is honored to support their journey.

LPEA Scholarship (Up to \$28,000 for any school) awarded to:



Trevor Harms from Animas High School to study Engineering at Colorado School of Mines. *"There is still a lot of discovery*

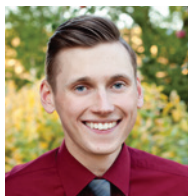
that needs to occur before we can have a completely renewable power grid. I hope my studies in physics and electrical engineering will contribute to this future of reliable, renewable energy."

Caitlyn Chapman from Ignacio High School to study Engineering at Colorado School of Mines. *"LPEA has*



been proactive and done much for our community in finding feasible solutions to meet the members' electrical needs. I would be honored to one day take part in continuing to advance this goal."

John Voelker Memorial Scholarship (\$10,000 for a vocational or tech school) awarded to:



Guy Wright from Bayfield High School to pursue a degree in Agricultural Business at Hutchinson Community College.

"I have prepared academically, personally, and vocationally for college and my future. Receipt of this scholarship will take so much off the financial burden that college will bring."

LPEA Lineman Scholarship (\$12,000 for tuition, books, fees, and tools for line school):



Zack McSweeney from Bayfield High School to study at Northwest Lineman College. *"Trade school is a great option to*

further my education. A power lineman is a great opportunity and a significant next step in my life that I am very passionate about and ready to commit."

Basin Electric Power Cooperative Scholarship (\$1,000 for any school) awarded to:

Kylie Keuning from Pagosa Springs High School to study Speech Pathology and Audiology at Calvin University.



"Becoming a Speech Pathologist is a dream come true for me as it is the perfect combination of the fields I am passionate about."

Tri-State G&T Scholarship (\$500 for any school) awarded to:



Sonie (Taylor) Schermer from Animas High School to study Engineering at the University of Colorado -Boulder. *"As*

I look into my future college education goals, I see myself pursuing STEM to make a difference in the way humanity impacts the environment."

Jacob Genualdi from Durango High School to study Economics at Harvard University.



"I could contribute to the area's rural power cooperative field through an understanding of the economics behind the transition to green energy."

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



BOARD MEETINGS

June 16th and July 21st
9:00 a.m.

The agenda, board packet, and access/location details will be posted online in advance of the meeting. Public comments are heard at the beginning of the meeting shortly after 9 a.m. Board meetings are open to the public and live streamed.

More at: lpea.coop/lpea-board-directors-resources



COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Finance + Audit

June 10th and July TBA
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

Broadband

June 3rd and July 1st
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

**All meetings are open to the public and live streamed.*

More at: lpea.coop/board-directors-committees



LPEA GRANTS

The Round Up Foundation Board of Directors approved **six grants totaling \$10,800** in April for Dancing Spirit Community Arts Center, Animas City Night Bazaar, Durango Botanical Gardens, TARA Historical Society, Durango PlayFest, and the Wildfire Adapted Partnership.