



## Be Ready for Storm Season

Spring is on our doorstep, and like many of you, we are looking forward to more opportunities to be outdoors and enjoy warmer weather. Springtime brings many of our favorite activities, like barbecuing with family and friends, working in the garden, and simply slowing down to enjoy life. Unfortunately, spring and summer can also create the perfect conditions for severe storms. NorVal Electric's crews are always prepared and standing by to respond should power outages occur in our area. When severe storms cause power disruptions, our line crews take all necessary precautions before working on any downed lines.

We encourage you to also practice safety and preparedness to protect your family during storms and outages.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency recommends the following items as a starting point for storm and disaster preparation, but you can visit [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) for additional resources:

- Stock your pantry with a three-day supply of non-perishable food, including canned goods, energy bars, peanut butter, powdered milk, instant coffee, water, and other essentials (e.g., diapers and toiletries).

- Confirm that you have adequate sanitation and hygiene supplies, including towelettes, soap, and hand sanitizer.
- Ensure your first aid kit is stocked with pain relievers, bandages, and other medical essentials, and make sure your prescriptions are current.
- Set aside basic household items you will need, including flashlights, batteries, a manual can opener, and a portable, battery-powered radio or TV.
- Organize emergency supplies so they are easily accessible in one location.

In the event of a prolonged power outage, turn off major appliances, TVs, computers, and other sensitive electronics. This will help prevent damage from potential power surges and will also help avoid overloading circuits during power restoration. However, leave one light on so you will know when power is restored.

If you plan to use a portable generator, make sure it's rated to handle the amount of power you need, and always review the manufacturer's instructions to operate it safely.

Listen to local news or NOAA Weather Radio for storm and emergency information.

Severe storms can occasionally bring down power lines. If you see a downed line, always assume it is energized and never approach it. If flooding occurs, never walk through areas where power lines could be submerged.

Advance planning for severe storms or other emergencies can reduce stress and anxiety caused by the weather event and lessen the storm's impact.

If you experience an outage, please do not report it on Facebook. Call our office number at 406-228-9351—this is the fastest way to let us know if your power is out.

We hope we don't experience severe storms over the spring and summer months, but we can never predict Mother Nature's plans. We recommend you make a plan today—because storm preparedness is always the best defense.



**Lightning struck one of NorVal's power poles Summer of 2024**

**Photo Credit: Jayson Nelson, Foreman**

## Co-op Day at the Capitol

NorVal Electric was one of many cooperatives invited to spend a day at Montana's Capitol building on January 20, 2025, as the Montana Legislature began its sessions. This annual event is hosted by Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association (MECA). Co-op employees at the event handed out over 200 lunches to legislators, staff, and others at the Capitol. Jake Page represented NorVal Electric at the event.

Jake stated, "It was a unique opportunity to shake hands with nearly all of Montana's lawmakers. I would like to thank Majority Leader Tom McGilvray for allowing me to meet with the Majority Whip Committee of the Republican Party and for explaining the significance of their meetings and how they impact all of us."

We encourage you to stay informed about the bills being voted on, as they directly impact you and NorVal Electric moving forward.

Photos show MECA's Co-op Day at the Capitol  
Photo Credit: Ryan Hall, MECA



### 2024 Year End Outage Statistics

**Supplier:** 2 Outages - System Wide Outages

**Storms:** 61 Outages - 526 Consumers Affected

**Other:** 254 Outages - 3,636 Consumers Affected

**Number of Active Meters:** 3,840

**Outage Total (in Hours):** 720.5

**Outage Minutes per Active Meter:** 11.26



## CONNECT WITH YOUR CO-OP

### Office Address

54091 US Hwy 2 West  
PO Box 951  
Glasgow, MT 59230  
**406-228-9351**



**NorVal Electric  
Cooperative, Inc.**

### Office Hours

Monday - Thursday  
7:00 am - 5:30 pm



[www.norval.coop](http://www.norval.coop)



[norval@norval.coop](mailto:norval@norval.coop)



[facebook.com/norvalelectric](https://facebook.com/norvalelectric)



[norval.smarthub.coop](http://norval.smarthub.coop)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**District 1:** Kevin Nelson 724-3202

**District 2:** Sam Gundermann 724-3405

**District 3:** Rick Molvig 367-5328

**District 4:** Chris Christensen 648-7303

**District 5:** Rick Stahl 762-7162

**District 6:** Brian Miller 525-3797

**District 7:** Rocky Kittleson 263-1510

**Gretchen Boardman** ~ General Manager

**Nick Dulaney** ~ Line Superintendent

**Marie Donaldson** ~ Office Manager