



NorVal Electric Cooperative, Inc.

JULY 2026



www.norval.coop



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norval.smarthub.coop



WHY VEGETATION MANAGEMENT MATTERS

There's something timeless about trees. They ground us. They remind us of where we've been, and they stretch toward what's ahead. Here in our community, we take pride in the natural beauty that surrounds us—the shade on a summer afternoon, the colors that mark the changing seasons, the quiet strength of something that grows slowly but endures.

At the same time, we share another responsibility—one that's just as essential to our daily lives. The responsibility to keep the lights on, to power our homes and businesses, to make sure that when you flip a switch, the energy you depend on is there.

That's why NorVal Electric works every day to strike a careful balance between preserving the beauty we cherish and delivering the reliable electricity you expect. One of the most important ways we do that is through regular tree trimming.

Now, it may not always be obvious, but keeping lines clear of overgrown vegetation plays a major role in preventing power outages. We've all seen what can happen when severe weather rolls in—strong winds, heavy ice or sudden storms can bring down branches and, with them, power lines and poles. In fact, nearly half of all power outages can be traced back to

trees and vegetation coming into contact with electrical infrastructure. That's why you may notice crews from NorVal or our trusted contractors working in neighborhoods throughout the year. Our crews are highly trained and certified, following the latest industry standards to ensure the job is done safely and effectively. Their work might seem routine, but it's anything but—it's a proactive step that helps prevent problems before they start. And it's not just good practice—it's required. Electric utilities across the country are obligated to manage vegetation near power lines. Scheduled trimming helps remove dead or weakened limbs and keeps fast-growing trees from becoming hazards. It's about staying one step ahead, especially as we prepare for the increasing frequency and intensity of severe weather events.

Electricity is a powerful force, and when trees grow too close to power lines, that power can become dangerous. Branches that touch lines—or even come close—can carry electrical current. Children climbing trees in their own yards may not realize the risk. And during storms, fallen trees can create hazardous conditions not only for families but also for our lineworkers

working to restore service.

There's also a financial reality we can't ignore. Preventative maintenance—like tree trimming—is far more cost-effective than repairing widespread damage after an outage. Left unchecked, overgrown vegetation can lead to more frequent disruptions and higher costs for everyone. A thoughtful, strategic vegetation management program helps keep those costs down for our members.

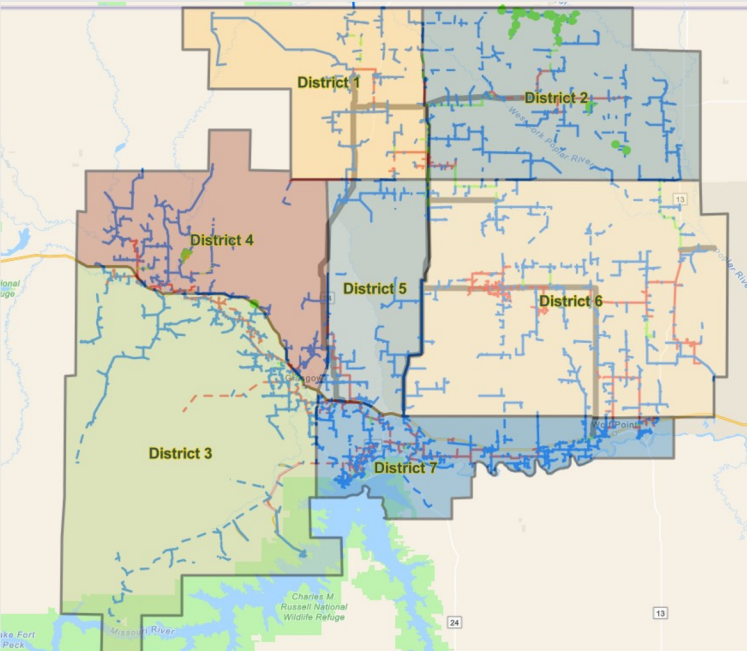
You can help, too. When planting new trees, consider their mature height and distance from nearby power lines. Trees that grow up to 40 feet should be planted at least 25 feet away from overhead lines. Larger trees—those that exceed 40 feet—should be planted at least 50 feet away. If you're landscaping near pad-mounted transformers, keep shrubs at least 10 feet from the front and 4 feet from the sides to allow safe access.

If your neighborhood has underground lines, don't forget to call 811 before digging. It's a simple step that can prevent serious accidents. At the end of the day, we all want the same thing: a community that's safe, resilient and beautiful. At NorVal, we're proud to be part of that effort. Our roots run deep here, just like the trees we work to care for.



Open Board Positions:

NorVal Electric is seeking applicants for Districts 2, 4 & 7. Applicant should be willing to commit to the Statement of Qualifications for Electric Cooperative Trustees, as well as commit the time to attend monthly meetings, training opportunities and State Association meetings. Applicant must be a bona fide resident within the boundaries of the district they are applying for and he or she must be an active member in good standing. If you are interested in being on the Board of Directors, please call the office at (406)228-9351 or email norval@norval.coop for more information. Deadline to apply and have all required documentation in is August 31, 2026.



Annual Meeting

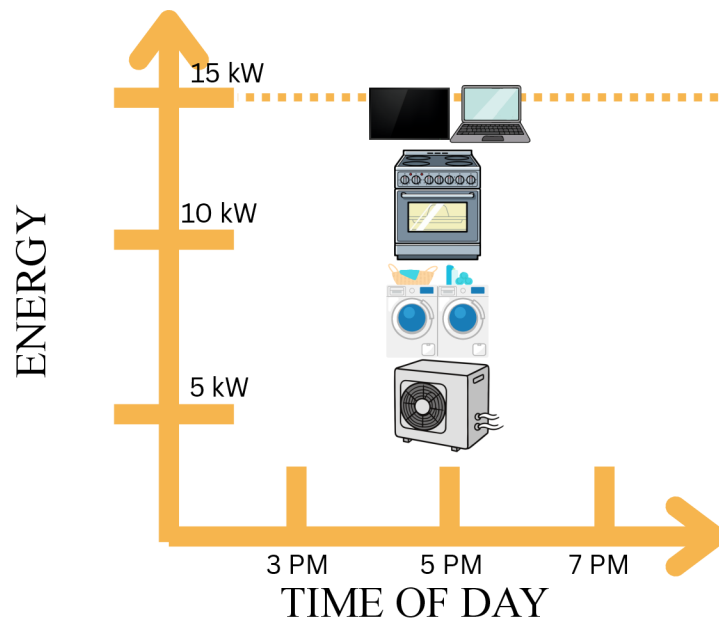
03
MONTHS

READY, SET... MEETING! 🦋
NORVAL ELECTRIC'S 18TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS IS COMING UP FAST. THIS YEAR IT WILL BE HOSTED AT THE OPHEIM HIGH SCHOOL ON OCT. 27TH.

- REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 11:30 AM
- LUNCH STARTS AT 12:30 PM
- BUSINESS MEETING TO FOLLOW LUNCH

[HTTPS://NORVAL.COOP/NEWS-EVENTS](https://norval.coop/news-events)

HIGH DEMAND = HIGHER COST



Using multiple appliances at the same time will increase the Demand Charge on your Bill!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & MANAGERS

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
Office Address: 54091 US HWY 2
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Glasgow, MT 59230
406-228-9351
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday
7:00 AM - 5:30 PM

