

Know What's Below: Dial 811 Before You Dig



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**

Spring is an optimal time of year to dream up and achieve your landscaping masterpiece, but in many parts of the country, planting shrubs in early fall gives the plants a head start at establishing roots in the season's cool, moist soil. Perhaps you're planning to build a new deck to enjoy those cool autumn evenings. If any of your fall projects require digging—such as planting trees or shrubs, or setting posts—remember to dial 811 first.

Underground utilities, such as buried gas, water and electric lines, can be a shovel thrust away from turning a fall project into a disaster.

Play it safe by dialing 811 to find out where utility lines run on your property. Your call will be routed to a local "one call" center. Tell the operator where you're planning to dig and what type of work you will be doing, and affected local utilities will be notified.

In a few days, a locator will arrive to designate the approximate location of any underground lines, pipes and cables. These areas will be marked with flags or paint so you'll know what's below. Then the safe digging can begin.

Even simple tasks like installing a new mailbox post can damage utility lines, which can disrupt service to an entire neighborhood, harm diggers and potentially result in fines and repair costs.

Never assume the location or depth of underground utility lines. There's no need: the 811 service is free, prevents the inconvenience of having utilities interrupted and can help you avoid serious injury. For more information about local services, visit www.call811.com.

OFFICE CLOSING

Otero County Electric Cooperative will be closed for Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25. Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families.



Don't forget to exercise your right to vote on November 8!



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Board Meeting

The board of trustees meets the third Friday of the month at 9:00 a.m. at the cooperative.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Heating your home uses more energy than any other system in your home—typically making up about 42 percent of your utility bill. By combining proper equipment maintenance and upgrades with recommended insulation, air sealing and thermostat settings, you can save about 30 percent on your energy bill.



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General Manager • Mario Romero

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Office Hours
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (M-F)