

News Release

April 16, 2020

SATURDAY IS NATIONAL LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY

SUN PRAIRIE, Wis. — Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin is proud to join the United States Congress in recognizing this Saturday – April 18 – as National Lineman Appreciation Day to honor the skilled electric lineworkers who dedicate themselves to keeping the power flowing to their communities and customers. Wisconsin’s 81 community-owned utilities employ more than 300 lineworkers who are among those considered essential workers during the pandemic.

By unanimous consent during the 2010s, the U.S. Senate and U.S. House approved separate resolutions recognizing linemen and designated April 18 as National Lineman Appreciation Day.

The Congressional resolutions note that lineworkers:

- are often first responders during storms and other catastrophic events, working to make the scene safe for other public safety heroes;
- work with thousands of volts of electricity high atop power lines 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to keep electricity flowing;
- play a vital role in the nation’s economy by maintaining and growing the energy infrastructure of the United States;
- often work under dangerous conditions separated from their families; and
- put their lives on the line every day with little recognition from the community regarding the danger of their work.

“We’re proud to salute all of Wisconsin’s lineworkers for their dedication to working safely and keeping the power flowing,” said Tim Heinrich, Executive Director of Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin. “This year’s National Lineman Appreciation Day takes on special meaning as the nation copes with the coronavirus pandemic and an increased reliance on essential workers to help citizens stay safe at home. We appreciate every lineworker’s ongoing commitment to a job well done.”

Those who wish to honor lineworkers and their families are encouraged to use the hashtag #ThankALineman in social media.

About MEUW

Formed in 1928, Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin is the state association providing safety services, leadership and management training, advocacy, and member support to the 81 municipal electric utilities across Wisconsin. Collectively, these public power utilities serve nearly 300,000 electric customers and distribute more than 11 percent of the electricity in Wisconsin. Municipal utilities, most with century-old roots serving their communities, operate on a not-for-profit basis overseen by a local governing board composed of local citizens and elected officials. To learn more, visit meuw.org.