

GENERAL
MANAGERERIC
HALFMANN

We Love Lineworkers

KARNES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE lineworkers don't work alone on our power lines. Whether they're climbing poles, restoring power or clearing tree limbs to prevent outages, they're never far from the hearts of the people who love them.

At this time of year, stores are flooded with hearts, candy and cards professing true love. But to be honest, those sentiments pale in comparison to the love we see every time a storm sweeps through our area.

When the lights go out, our lineworkers are sent from their loved ones out into the elements. When other electric cooperatives are in trouble after devastating hurricanes, tornadoes, fires or floods, our lineworkers travel to get the lights back on for complete strangers.

Each time these brave men and women leave home to help those in need, their families are left behind, praying for a safe return.

Working with high-voltage electricity, lineworkers find themselves in life-or-death situations on a regular basis. That's why Karnes EC focuses on safety first. Our safety program includes daily briefings, monthly meetings and ongoing training to ensure that our team performs its job safely.

We know the folks who love our lineworkers appreciate the time we take to make sure our employees get home safe every night.

Marrying into this profession isn't easy. Lineworkers are often on call and must be ready to respond at a moment's notice when our community needs them. This makes children's sporting events and family get-togethers hard to pull off sometimes.

But the crews who keep your power flowing do so because they know that without their commitment, many of the things we've come to expect—hot meals, lights, heat—wouldn't be possible. By devoting their lives to working on utility lines, they connect all of us to a better way of life.

This Valentine's Day, we'd like to take a moment to thank the families who support and love our team of lineworkers who brave the elements and work long hours to keep power flowing to our homes each and every day.

Thank you for putting your love on the line. We're committed to making sure the lineworkers you love return home safely. ■



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Help Kids Stay Warm and Safe in the Cold

MOST OF US LIKE to huddle inside a toasty, heated house when it's cold outdoors. But most kids love to play outside no matter the temperature, seemingly unaware of the cold. Keep your child safe and protected by following these winter safety tips.

Dress kids in layers. As they warm up, they can remove layers to stay comfortable.

Kids should wear hats when playing out in the cold; they lose more of their body heat through the head than adults do.

Warm and waterproof gloves or mittens are a must for reducing the risk of cold fingers or frostbite.

Remove clothing as soon as it gets wet. Beware of kids breaking a sweat in cold temperatures, as the body's natural way of cooling itself can soon make them too cold as sweat evaporates.

Apply sunscreen. Even on cold days, the sun's rays can still cause sunburn, especially when they reflect off snow. Sunglasses and ski masks can protect the eyes from dangerous rays.

Remember to have children drink water or other hydrating beverages while playing outside, even if they don't feel thirsty. Lure your kids inside for frequent breaks that include warm drinks and healthy snacks. ■