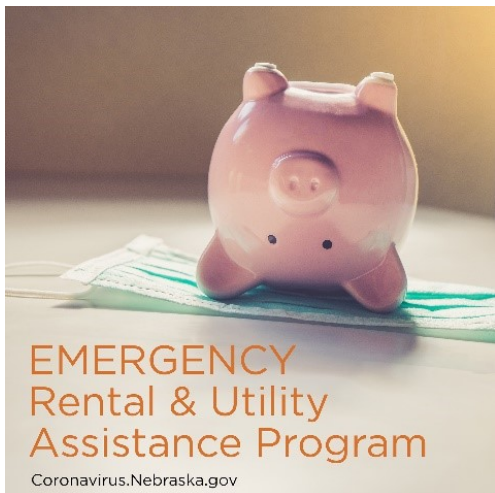


# NEWS FROM YOUR BPW



**Board of Public Works**  
**1600 O Street, PO Box 288**  
**Auburn, NE 68305 (402-274-4981)**  
**auburnbpw.com**



## Electrical Safety Tips

### Indoors:

- Check electric cords for fraying or cracking. Replace cords that may be damaged, and don't overload electric outlets.
- Remember extension cords are intended to be temporary; they are not intended as permanent household wiring.
- Don't run cords under carpets or rugs and don't tack or nail cords to walls or floors.
- Keep electric appliances and tools away from water.
- Keep your home's electrical system in good repair. Contact a licensed electrical contractor if you have flickering lights, sparks, non-functioning outlets, or need wiring repairs or upgrades.

### Outdoors:

- Never touch downed power lines!
- Always call your local utility or 911 if you see lines down.
- Watch for overhead lines every time you use a ladder, work on roofs, trees, or carry long tools or loads. Keep kites, model airplanes, and metallic balloons away from power lines.
- Know what's below before you dig. At least 3 days before starting any digging or excavating project, call 811, the [National One Call Center](#), to have underground utility lines, pipes, and cables marked for free.
- Avoid planting trees underneath power lines or near utility equipment.

***The State of Nebraska Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERA) makes funds available to assist eligible renter households that are unable to pay past due and/or future rent and utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic, subject to income qualifications and residency. Those eligible can obtain assistance for rent or utilities due from April 1, 2020 through November 30, 2021. Complete information on this program is available at [coronavirus.nebraska.gov](https://coronavirus.nebraska.gov) [[coronavirus.nebraska.gov](https://coronavirus.nebraska.gov)] or by calling 1-833-500-8810.***

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# There When You Need It

## Drinking Water Week

May 2-8, 2021

### Benefits of Drinking Water



-  Weight Loss
-  Digestion
-  Brain
-  Skin
-  Headache Cure
-  Energy
-  Better Exercise

### Help Keep Our Water Safe! Cross-Connections Can Contaminate Our Safe Water!

#### What is a “cross-connection”?

A cross-connection is a permanent or temporary piping arrangement which can allow your drinking water to be contaminated if a backflow condition occurs. A cross-connection occurs when a pipe designed to carry safe drinking water is connected at some point to unsafe water or other liquid material. You may not think of your home as susceptible to such hazards, but if you have a hose that is submerged in a pool, carwash bucket, bathtub or laundry sink, or if you have a pesticide sprayer connected to a garden hose, you've created a cross-connection. If a water main breaks, the potential exists for unsafe substances to be siphoned back into the water supply. This means that contaminated water in a pool, carwash bucket, laundry sink, or pesticide sprayer could be drawn into the water system. Once there, the contamination could affect many.

#### What is “backflow”?

It is just what it sounds like: the water is flowing in the opposite direction from its normal flow. With the direction of flow reversed, due to a change in pressure, backflow can allow contaminants to enter our drinking water system through cross-connections.

**SUMMER RATES BEGIN**

The Board of Public Works (BPW) would like to remind all customers that summer electric rates begin when meters are read June 1<sup>st</sup>. This is a normal yearly event we want our customers to be made aware of. If customers can conserve during the summer months, they will see the benefits of lower electric bills. Summer rates will remain until meters are read beginning October 1<sup>st</sup>, when the lower winter rates will again be in effect.



### City of Auburn Annual Water Quality Report for January 1 to December 31, 2020

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts to provide safe drinking water.

Places to find this report:

- Auburn Board of Public Works Website
- Auburn Board of Public Works Office
- The Nemaha County Herald

For more information regarding this report or to request a copy, contact our office at 402-274-4981.



Office Hours: 7:30 am to 5:00 pm M-F  
Service Center Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm M-F