



# NEWS FROM YOUR BPW

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

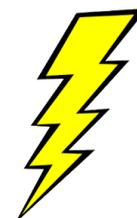


## SPRING INTO SAFETY WITH NATIONAL ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

Here are some 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. Never reach for or unplug an appliance that has fallen into water; instead, turn the power off at the breaker before you unplug the appliance or remove it from the water.
- Never put anything other than an electrical plug in an outlet. Use outlet covers or caps to protect children.
- 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.



### 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.



# Drinking Water Week 22

*There When You Need It*  
**May 1-7, 2022**

Drinking Water Week may only be for one week, but it's an important time to appreciate all that it takes to ensure high quality drinking water is always there when you need it.

## 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.



### City of Auburn Annual Water Quality Report for January 1 to December 31, 2021

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.

**OUR OFFICE WILL  
 BE CLOSED  
 MONDAY MAY 30<sup>TH</sup>**



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