



# NEWS FROM YOUR BPW

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



## Happy Public Power Week!

October 4-10, 2020

### What does "Public Power" mean?

It means reliable, affordable, environmentally responsible electricity that helps build strong communities.



Due to COVID-19 restrictions we are disappointed to announce the cancellation of our 2020 Energy Fest for the local 4<sup>th</sup> graders.

## AUBURN

### FIRE HYDRANT TESTING IN OCTOBER

Look and listen for newspaper and radio broadcasts on specific dates for fire hydrant testing that will be done in October throughout Auburn.

BPW will operate all 200 fire hydrants to make certain they are functional.

Customers may find temporary discoloration of their water during this period. The water does remain safe to drink, but you should run water clear before washing clothes.



## PREPARING YOUR HOME FOR FALL

- Get an HVAC inspection –your furnace needs to be in tip-top condition.
- Change your filters on forced air heating systems.
- Get your roof checked out.
- Open curtains and blinds to let sun in through your windows to help heat your home and shut them at night to retain heat.
- Inspect your home's outer walls, ceiling, windows, doors, and floors.
- Inspect your plumbing! There are few things worse than bursting pipes in the winter.
- Check or install weather stripping at doors.
- Seal up foundation and driveway cracks because during cold weather, moisture can seep into these areas and freeze, causing surfaces to crack and split.

**Congratulations to Kiefer Coatney (BPW Water Tech) & Logan Waring on the birth of their daughter, Karter June Coatney, born August 14<sup>th</sup>, 5lbs, 12oz, 18 inches long.**



# Halloween Safety Tips

- S**tay in groups
- C**ostumes should be well fitting and flame resistant
- A**lways test makeup
- R**emember to look both ways when crossing streets
- E**xamine all treats before eating
- S**tay on sidewalks when possible
- A**void dark houses
- F**lashlights + glowsticks for visibility
- E**njoy with caution!

American  
Safety Council

ONLINE  
PAYMENTS  
**xpress**  
BILL PAY

Why get out in the cold weather to pay your utility bill...

Pay online with Xpress Bill Pay, at no extra cost!

Electronic check now available with Xpress Bill Pay

To set up your Xpress Bill Pay account/s go to [www.xpressbillpay.com](http://www.xpressbillpay.com).

## “Fall Checkup”—Are You Ready for Winter?

- 1. Get the Furnace Inspected:** One of the most important tools in combating the winter cold is your furnace. Now is the time to schedule a furnace inspection with your HVAC professional. During the first cold spells of the winter, your HVAC professional may be very busy repairing systems that went out without warning. By being prepared, you can insure you do not spend any time sitting in the cold.
- 2. Look at your Roof and Gutters:** Now is the time of year to review the condition of your roof and gutters. Make sure any summer storm damage has been resolved. Replace any loose shingles and inspect the flashing. Make sure that the fall leaves do not clog your gutters. Snowmelt can lead to serious runoff, ensure that the water is directed away from your home to prevent water damage. Can't get up on your roof? No worries—a good contractor can handle such an inspection in less than an hour.
- 3. Inspect your Windows:** A lot of homes lose a great deal of heat through tiny cracks around windows and doors. Not sure how your windows and doors are doing? Try the candle test. In a perfectly still room, light a candle and hold it near the top, bottom, and sides of your doors and windows. When the candle flickers, you have a draft. In a lot of cases, new weather stripping or caulking can remedy the issue.

Office Hours: 7:30 am to 5:00 pm M-F  
Service Center Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm M-F  
Closed the following dates: Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>  
Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving break,  
Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> and  
Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup> for Christmas break.

