

HEAT THE STREETS RUN & WALK SETS NEW RECORDS FOR ENERGY ASSISTANCE



The annual Heat the Streets Run & Walk for Warmth has set the record for the number of participants and money raised for energy assistance. More than 1,100 people participated in this year's event, co-sponsored by OPPD and Metropolitan Utilities District (M.U.D.). The event raised

more than \$226,500 for OPPD's Energy Assistance Program and M.U.D.'s Home Fund. That total is \$46,500 over the campaign goal. Every penny of the money raised each year goes to customers who need extra help paying their

energy bills. Last year, OPPD's Energy Assistance Program distributed more than \$371,012 in funding to 996 households. Heat the Streets is the biggest fundraising source for the program.

A WARNING ABOUT SOLAR FALSE SOLAR-INSTALLATION PARTNER

OPPD has received reports recently about salespeople visiting customers at their homes, falsely representing themselves as a solar installation partner with OPPD.

OPPD has a number of solar energy products and programs, including solar rebates, residential community solar, and solutions and rebates for

businesses wanting to add solar. However, OPPD **does not** contract out the work to promote and communicate about these products. Customers that choose to add solar generation to their home or business should review a list of OPPD-approved solar installers, also called trade allies, which have

undergone specialized training, understand program requirements and can handle the rebate application process for you. Customers who have any questions about how to get started with adding solar to their home or business are encouraged to visit **OPPD.com**.

MAY BOARD MEETINGS

All-committee meeting: Tuesday, May. 13 (see oppd.com/BoardMeeting for details). Regular board meeting: Thursday, May. 15, 5 p.m. (see oppd.com/BoardMeeting for details). Hearing-impaired call 531-226-3208, 72 hours prior to request an interpreter. Agendas posted and meetings viewable on oppd.com/BoardMeeting.

HELPING CUSTOMERS, GROWING NEBRASKA



Anyone who builds a home, opens a business, or hires a contractor in OPPD's service territory has a well-connected ally who makes it all possible.

Eastern Nebraska is growing fast, and OPPD's electrical service designers (ESDs) are the quiet professionals facilitating a lot of the

development. ESDs tackle the planning and design work to connect customers to OPPD's distribution grid. They answer questions, power through problems and help keep projects moving within their assigned regions of OPPD's service territory. Ask any electrician or contractor if they have a trusted professional contact at OPPD, and odds are they'll name an ESD. ESDs come from all backgrounds

within OPPD: former line technicians, meter technicians, splicers, records specialists and many others. They work directly with nearly every department in the utility, making them a go-to source to solve customer problems. ESDs talk constantly with engineers, electricians and contractors, collectively working on hundreds of projects, including restaurants, schools, homes, office buildings and farm infrastructure. They also help assess damage during storms and guide outside mutual aid crews working on restoration.



TIPS TO CHOOSE AN ENERGY-EFFICIENT HOME

Heating, ventilation and air conditioning

Check your furnace's humidifier, if it has one. Make sure drain lines from the furnace flow freely to floor drains. Check for damage to the flue pipe that vents gases out of your home.

Make sure any outdoor air conditioning units are in good condition and service them regularly. That can add years to their lives. The fins should be clear of debris.

Be sure to remove return air registers from the wall and vacuum inside them. Clean exhaust fans regularly. If your home has a gas fireplace, be sure to remove the front covers and clean any accumulated dust and hair.

New technology is helping make homes more energy-efficient than ever, and that can help you save on your electric bill.

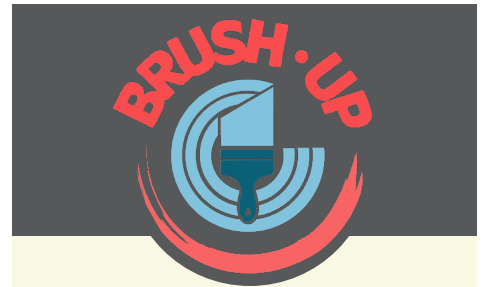
Here are some tips to help ensure your home is in good shape.

Lights

Do all light fixtures and switches work? Inspect light bulbs for any damage.

Outlets

Receptacle testers cost less than \$10 and can tell you if an outlet is wired correctly. If there are outlets near water sources, such as a sink, make sure they have a ground fault circuit interrupter, which acts as a fast-acting circuit breaker.



Is your house in need of a fresh coat of exterior paint? Are you a homeowner aged 60 or older residing in Douglas or Sarpy Counties? If so, please consider applying to participate in Project Houseworks' Brush Up event. To apply, please contact Amanda at amanda@projecthouseworks.org, (402) 965-9201, or visit projecthouseworks.org for more information. **Please note that space is limited and certain restrictions apply.**

Project Houseworks is a nonprofit dedicated to enhancing lives and strengthening communities by preserving quality, affordable housing.

7"x 2.5" AD SPACE AVAILABLE IN 2025 Proceeds benefit EAP. For details, please email gpschulte@oppd.com.

Proceeds from the sale of advertising space in Outlets are donated to OPPD's Energy Assistance Program. An advertisement in Outlets does not constitute an endorsement by OPPD. For information about this space, call 402-536-4131.