

N1831 State Highway 13, Medford, WI 54451 • 715-678-2411 • www.taylorelectric.org

Stay Safe as You Go Over the River and Through the Woods This Holiday Season



The winter holiday season is a busy time of year for many of us. Along with putting out decorations and baking cookies, we often spend more time in our cars than usual: shopping for presents, traveling to family gatherings or attending holiday events. However, all that time in the car can also mean facing extreme weather conditions that can make safe driving difficult.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, winter weather conditions such as snow, sleet and slush cause more than 550,000 traffic accidents each year, leading to approximately 138,000 injuries and 1,700 fatalities.

Along with risk of injury, possible damage to your vehicle, and plain inconvenience, collisions may also involve downed power lines or other electrical hazards. Unfortunately, when this happens, it adds another very significant danger to the mix that can cause severe shock, burns or electrocution. Knowing what to do in this situation can save lives.

If you are in an accident involving a downed power line:

• Call 9-1-1, and tell the dispatcher a downed power line or other electrical equipment is involved in a collision. Power company personnel will be dispatched to the scene to deener-gize the power.

• Put your window down and alert others not to approach the scene. They could be shocked or electrocuted if they walk or run over the energized area or touch anything that is energized.

Never attempt to drive over a power line or through wa-

ter, snow or other debris that could be hiding one. There is no way to tell if a power line is energized, even if it is not sparking or buzzing.

• Do not exit the vehicle UNLESS the vehicle is on fire or you see smoke. The vehicle acts as an insulator that keeps you safe from stray electricity.

• If you MUST exit the vehicle, cross your arms across your chest, put your feet together, and make a clean jump from the vehicle. Then hop with feet together as far as you can— at least 50 feet away. Once a power line is in contact with a car or truck, the ground or other objects, it energizes the area. The electrical current spreads to the vehicle and ground, and it ripples out. Each "ring" of the ripple represents a different voltage. Stepping

from one voltage to the next can cause your body to become a path for electricity and electrocute you.

• If a power line is inside the vehicle due to damage or an open window, stay in the vehicle. DO NOT touch or try to move the wire. DO NOT attempt to use other objects to move it.

• If your vehicle collides with a pad-mounted transformer, which houses electrical equipment connected to underground power lines, the same safety precautions apply.

Keep your family safe while on the road this holiday season! For more information about safety around electricity, go to SafeElectricity.org.



Can you help us find these people?

ANDREASEN, TONI AT&T SERVICES INC **BEHRENS, RICHARD & SHARON BLEIER, DON BOLZ, JOSEPHINE** BRANDL, SCOTT J DYGART, FLORENCE DECEASED ENGEN, RICHARD FAUDE, JESSE & HEATHER FELDBRUGGE, CELIA C/O KRIS SEEFELD FISK, DOUG FRANCOIS, GENEVIEVE DECEASED GANE, LEONARD & VICKY **GEIGER, RON & BARB** GENGLER, DEBRA **GRAFFUNDER, EUGENE & RUTH GRAHAM, CORINNE**

GRUBBS, DEBORAH HANISH, JAMES & SHEILA HANISH, JOSEPH HILDEBRANDT, CHARLES & BARB HOFFMAN, CHARLES JR KNORN, DANIEL & DIANNE **KRAUS, ADOLPH & MARIAN** LAPP, CORINNE LARSON, HILDA LARSON, LESTER & TAMMY LEKIE, MARTHA DECEASED LINZMEIER, SHAENA MILLER, ABRAHAM MOTTE, MICHAEL NEITZEL, AMELIA DECEASED **NEUBAUER, ROBERT & KATHRINE** PECHE, RAY DECEASED

RAASCH, DEAN & JANICE SCHILLING, PAUL & CINDY SIVULKA, BERNICE DECEASED SMITH, PAT THIEME, PATRICIA THIEME, THERESA DECEASED VOGT, JEANETTE WALTERS, SCOTT & MICHELLE WEISS, JOHN & SALLY ZELINSKI, LESTER & VIOLA ZIEHLKE, CARL & ANN ZIELINSKI, TAMMIE ZONDLO, KRISTINE ZULEGER, BRUCE & BRENDA

REMINDERS!!

- The deadline for Taylor Electric's 2020 incentive program is December 31st.
- Taylor Electric's office will be closed December 24th and 25th and January 1st. The staff and board at the cooperative wish you and your family a safe and healthy holiday season and new year!!
- Don't forget to pick up your 2021 calendar. Available in the lobby. One per member. please!



Shopping for that hard-to-buy-for person on your list?

Shop local this year and give the gift of energy! Gift certificates are available for any amount at the office.



December 11th is National App Day

Have you downloaded Taylor Electric's app for Smarthub? Through the app, you can conveniently check your energy use, pay your bill and much more!





