

# BE SAFE ON THE JOB

## Things to remember when working around power lines

It is important to be aware of possible hazardous conditions. Here are some important safety tips to keep in mind when working:

- Do not assume all power lines have the same clearance height. Height can vary by year built, location and voltage.
- Your old machinery clears the lines, but how about your newer, bigger machinery?
- The roof of your machinery might clear the lines, but how about the radio antenna?
- If snow or other debris is piled beneath a power line, it will reduce your clearance.
- Make sure you call 811 before you dig post holes or dig for other projects on the farm.
- Be careful not to hit guy wires that support poles.
- Avoid storing hay or other material near power lines, because it can be a hazard when loading.
- Always lower an auger or other boom before moving it.
- Be careful when working near trees that may block the view of power lines.
- If equipment gets hung up on a power line, the operator should NOT get off the machinery unless in immediate danger.
- If you must leave the equipment, jump as far away from the machinery as possible. Never get back on machinery that touches a power line until the utility company disconnects the line.
- Train all workers and your children about safety near power lines.

### Online safety resources

Verendrye Electric Cooperative

[www.verendrye.com](http://www.verendrye.com)

North Dakota Association  
of Rural Electric Cooperatives

[www.ndarec.com](http://www.ndarec.com)

North Dakota One Call

[www.ndonecall.com](http://www.ndonecall.com)



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**



Verendrye lineworkers repair an underground power line after it was damaged by a backhoe. Hitting an underground power line can be dangerous and can also cause outages.



# Stay Clear!

**A downed power line may not be a dead line.  
It could cause serious injury or death.**

If someone is injured by contact with a power line, call 911 and keep others away until help arrives.

If a power line falls across or near your vehicle while you are in it, stay inside until help arrives. If you must exit, jump clear so that no part of your body is touching the car when you land. **KEEP BOTH FEET TOGETHER**, and shuffle or hop at least 30 feet away from the vehicle.

**Verendrye  
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