Retired Hay Springs resident, Archie Cerny, remembers early days at Northwest Rural Public Power when life was simpler yet the work was a little more difficult.

Cerny was born to Frank and Georgia north of Clinton in 1925. He was the youngest of eight children. “I was the endgate,” he chuckled. He graduated from Clinton High School in 1943 and the following Spring he joined the Army Air Corps and served in World War II for two years. The war ended in 1945 and he returned back to the Clinton area for a couple of years before enrolling in a Chicago Trade School to become an electrician.

“I helped wire up a lot of farmsteads after the countryside was wired up,” explained Cerny. During this period he married Mary Kearns whom he met at a Rushville cafe where she waitressed. The couple were married in 1949 and had one son, Allen. His wife passed nine years ago and his son is a retired teacher and lives in Ogallala with his wife, Janice.

In 1952, Cerny accepted a position as lineman at Northwest Rural. His electrician work had slowed down once most the rural homes were electrified. “We moved to Hay Springs and rented a little house across from the Hay Springs High School," recalled Cerny. Back then, NRPPD’s office was located in a small building on North Main Street which is now the Good Neighbor’s Center.

The “REA” crew was minimal. “I worked with the first manager, Gregory Cripps,” said Cerny. It was around the same time Cerny began working at Northwest, the Board of Directors changed from a cooperative to a public power district. Cripps served that position until November 1959 when he was succeeded by Donald R. Armstrong, who had previously been serving as the bookkeeper. “Walt Ainslie also worked in the office back then,” said Cerny. Melvin Weldner was the line superintendent and Gene Brice as the lineman foreman. “There were only about four linemen -- Eldon Eaton, who later moved to Eau Claire, Wisc., Bobby Blair, Darrell Dotson and Lee Preble who moved to Rapid City, S.D. sometime during the period Cerny was employed.

(Continued on Page 2)
NRRPD Early Lineman--
(Continued from Page 1)

Cerny still enjoys swapping stories with Brice, who is now a resident at Pioneer Manor, and still recalls fun memories about working with Eaton, who passed a few years ago.

Cerny recalled a particular summer when two high school boys were helping the line crew, Henry Johnson Jr. and Georgie Goff. “We built 14 miles of line, there were no power diggers or anything like that back then,” he explained. While they were working around Marsland, about a foot deep you would hit butte stone. “We had to use a boreholer and dynamite! When the dynamite went off it left just right size hole for a pole,” he chuckled.

Their first boom truck was a Dodge power wagon, and then they upgrade to a FWD (4-wheel drive). About two years after the poles were installed the linemen would have to go back out and tighten the lines because the creosote poles would shrink some. “One time Eaton had grabbed a hold of pole and he lost his footing and ended up with a chest full of splinters that Brice and I ended picking out of his chest,” he said with a grin.

In the mid 50s, they were just beginning to introduce the concept of bucket trucks. “Heights never bothered me. While serving in the Army, I had to climb a 145’ radio range tower to replace the lightbulb,” said Cerny. He noted there was no extra compensation for the danger, because “I was in Army!”

After working four years for Northwest, Cerny had the opportunity to return to the family farm where he and his wife would raise their son and farm for 37 years. When the couple retired, they decided to return to Hay Springs in 1992. “Mary liked being close to her cousin and enjoyed playing cards at the Senior Center,” he said. He admitted he still enjoys playing cards and does a lot of tinkering. Some of his projects have included restoring windmills and plows, but his favorite would have to be his 1929 Model A which he likes to show off in area parades. “The last paint job cost more than the entire car when I purchased it including new tires,” he smiled. His cousin owns Cerny Body Shop in Chadron and painted the gorgeous teal colored car.

Cerny is also a member of the Rushville American Legion Post where he originally joined.
Gardening Begins in January

Your garden can be many things and fill many needs. We cultivate our outdoor space for food, beauty, or, even on the more practical side, money. A well-manicured landscape improves the value of your property. But when you are gardening in January in your dreams, I believe it also adds some romance to the space. Dreams are about things not yet seen and hope for something better.

The most beautiful garden I have ever grown has been in January in my dreams. Then there is the reality of living in a semi-arid climate in the High Plains of Nebraska.

I recently realized that the landscape which surrounds me is there year around. I traveled to a friend’s home in Fairfax, S.D. during Christmas. Her living room was charming accentuated by the scene just outside a large picture window. The snow covered spruce trees in her backyard grew majestically along a rolling slope that led your imagination down the hill. My husband kept commenting on the beautiful room. I finally asked him what made the room beautiful. He replied, “The view.”

So as you plan and dream about your garden space this winter, look out your window and tell me - What do you want to see next winter? Do you want to see snow covered trees, an abandoned gazebo waiting for spring, or perhaps bushes and bird feeders full of grateful birds?

As you dream about your outdoor living space, try to envision it as it would look during all four seasons. A red twig dogwood, for example, will flower in the spring, be an attractive flowering bush in the summer, have bright autumn foliage and then display red twigs in the white snow. It will also attract your feathered friends because of the protection and the berries.

As you are dreaming about and planning your landscape, jot down the ideas on paper. It would even be a good idea to measure the bed and draw out your vision. It's easier to erase pencil on paper than to move plants around in your garden.

Another tip is to plan based on a plants full growth size. If your garden ends up looking too spaced out this year you can fill in with annuals until the plants mature. It is disheartening to have to redo a bed because it is too crowded.

If you are designing a mixed border along a hedge, house or fence, allow yourself ample space. Ideally this includes, 8 feet or more for plantings and 2 feet of open space in the rear for air access and easy maintenance.

Whether you are designing a mixed border, a perennial border or an island around a tree, divide your space up into tall, medium and short. Start with the taller plants in the back and work your way toward the front.

Consider plants that bloom across different seasons and alternate different season bloomers with each other so you always have something blooming across your area.

We spend the winter looking through seed catalogues and gardening magazines. They are full of ideas and beautiful things that I would like to try. The biggest challenge is to keep the selection of plants small. Make your garden project smaller and more manageable so you can enjoy the process. You can always dream about another part of your yard next winter.

Indeed, this is the best time for gardening~~~
Put the romance back into gardening and start dreaming!
Northwest Rural reminds you when moving or piling snow around electric pedestals, double throw switches and meter poles to be careful.

Keep Power Poles Safe For Utility Workers

How often have you seen a power pole used as a pole for a basketball hoop, a satellite dish, a bird house, a support for a deer stand, or even something as simple as a sign? Using power poles to support structures or for displaying signs and event posters isn’t just an inconvenience for utility workers, it is potentially deadly.

Safety issues cause by unapproved pole attachments place the lives of line-workers and the public in peril. It may seem innocent, but a small nail partially driven into a pole can have deadly results around high voltage electricity.

Northwest Rural’s line crews climb utility poles at all hours of the day and night, in the worst of conditions. Anything attached to our poles can create serious hazards for our line personnel. Sharp objects like nails, tacks, staples, or barbed wire can puncture rubber gloves and other safety equipment, making lineman vulnerable to electrocution.

Not only do these attachments put line workers at risk, anyone placing these items on poles may come dangerously close to energize power lines with thousands of volts of electricity pulsing overhead. It is always wise to keep any structure at least 10 feet away from utility poles.

Unauthorized pole attachments violate the National Electric Safety Code which includes a section that reads: Signs, posters, notices and other attachments shall not be placed on supporting structures without concurrence of the owner (the District is the owner of the pole). Supporting structures should be kept free from other climbing hazards such as tacks, nails, through bolts and vines.

Please, for your safety and the safety of our linemen, do not use poles for supports or sign posts.

Thank you for your cooperation!
Northwest Rural Public Power District
**Sour Cream Pork Chops**
- 6 pork chops
- salt and pepper to taste
- garlic powder to taste
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 large onion, sliced 1/4 inch thick
- 2 cubes chicken bouillon
- 2 cups boiling water
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 (8 oz.) container sour cream

Season pork chops with salt, pepper, and garlic powder, and then dredge in 1/2 cup flour. In a skillet over medium heat, lightly brown chops in a small amount of oil.

Place chops in slow cooker, and top with onion slices. Dissolve bouillon cubes in boiling water and pour over chops. Cover, and cook on Low 7 to 8 hours.

Preheat oven to 200 degrees F.

After the chops have cooked, transfer chops to the oven to keep warm. Be careful, the chops are so tender they will fall apart. In a small bowl, blend 2 tablespoons flour with the sour cream; mix into meat juices. Turn slow cooker to High for 15 to 30 minutes, or until sauce is slightly thickened. Serve sauce over pork chops.

**White Cheese Chicken Lasagna**
- 9 lasagna noodles
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 2 cups cubed, cooked chicken meat
- 2 cups grated Parmesan cheese, divided
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese for topping

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Cook lasagna noodles in boiling water for 8 to 10 minutes. Drain, and rinse with cold water.

Melt the butter in a large saucepan over medium heat. Cook the onion and garlic in the butter until tender, stirring frequently. Stir in the flour and milk, and boil, stirring constantly, for 1 minute. Stir in 2 cups mozzarella cheese and 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese. Season with the basil, oregano, and ground black pepper. Remove from heat, and set aside.

Spread 1/3 of the sauce mixture in the bottom of a 9x13 inch baking dish. Layer with 1/3 of the noodles, the ricotta, and the chicken. Arrange 1/3 of the noodles over the chicken, and layer with 1/3 of the sauce mixture, spinach, and the remaining 2 cups mozzarella cheese and 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese. Arrange remaining noodles over cheese, and spread remaining sauce evenly over noodles. Sprinkle with parsley and 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese.

Bake 35 to 40 minutes in the preheated oven.

---

**Baked Apple Cinnamon Rolls**

**Sauce:**
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 tablespoon heavy cream
- 1/2 cup light brown sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese for topping

Rolls:
- 1 (13.8 ounce) can refrigerated pizza crust
- 1/4 cup light brown sugar
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons ground cinnamon

For sauce, whisk together all ingredients in small saucepan over medium-low heat. Cook, stirring occasionally, for 15-20 minutes until sauce thickens.

For cinnamon rolls, preheat oven to F. Lightly spray an 8-inch cake pan with non-stick cooking spray. Roll out pizza dough into 8 x 12-inch rectangle with the smallest length facing you.

Combine sugars and cinnamon together in small bowl. Sprinkle evenly over dough. Pat sugar mixture gently into dough. Roll dough away from you. Dough will be about 2 inches in diameter and 12 inches long.

Cut dough into 8 equally thick slices. Place rolls in prepared cake pan and Bake for 20 minutes.

Pour sauce over rolls, and bake for an additional 15 minutes. Let pan cool slightly on wire rack for 10 minutes.

Serve.
### NRPPD Area School Activity Calendar

#### Chadron

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Feb. 1</td>
<td>B BB (7th-8th) vs. Gordon-Rushville, 4:40, 6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., Feb. 2</td>
<td>G&amp;B BB (JV-V0 at Alliance, 4, 4, 5:30 &amp; 7 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WR at Michell, 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs., Feb. 4</td>
<td>Parent-Teacher Conf. 3-7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri., Feb. 5</td>
<td>No School - Elementary-Intermediate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Feb. 6</td>
<td>ACT Testing at CSC, 8-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Feb. 8</td>
<td>G&amp;B C BB at Chadron, 4 &amp; 5:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., Feb. 9</td>
<td>G&amp;B BB (JV-V) at Valentine, 4, 4, 5:30 &amp; 7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs., Feb. 11</td>
<td>Parent-Teacher Conf. Middle &amp; High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri., Feb. 12</td>
<td>Wrestling Districts at Sidney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Feb. 13</td>
<td>Speech at North Platte, tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 15-16</td>
<td>B BB C at Alliance, tba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 15-16-18</td>
<td>Girls BB Sub-Districts, tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 18-20</td>
<td>State Wrestling at CenturyLink in Omaha</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Feb. 20</td>
<td>Speech at Ogallala, tba</td>
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#### Gordon-Rushville

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Feb. 1</td>
<td>B BB (MS) at Chadron, 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., Feb. 2</td>
<td>G&amp;B C BB at Valentine, 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed., Feb. 3</td>
<td>FFA Ag. Mechanics Contest/Envirothon @</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri., Feb. 5</td>
<td>G&amp;B BB (V) Western Trails, tba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Feb. 6</td>
<td>Speech at Chadron, tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Feb. 8</td>
<td>G&amp;B C BB vs. Alliance, 5:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., Feb. 9</td>
<td>B BB (MS) vs. Valentine, 4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed., Feb. 10</td>
<td>Speech WTC at Bridgeport, tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 12-13</td>
<td>WR Districts, tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri., Feb. 12</td>
<td>G&amp;B BB (JV-V) vs. Bridgeport, 2:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Feb. 13</td>
<td>Speech at Kimball, tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun., Feb. 14</td>
<td>G&amp;B BB (JV-V) at Morrill, 1 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Feb. 15</td>
<td>No School-Teacher Inservice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., Feb. 16</td>
<td>G BB - Subdistricts, tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed., Feb. 17</td>
<td>RES Turn in BoxTopps Day, 8 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 18-20</td>
<td>WR State Omaha, tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri., Feb. 19</td>
<td>G BB Subdistricts Finals, tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Feb. 20</td>
<td>B BB (JV-V) at Valentine, 5 p.m. MK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun., Feb. 28</td>
<td>Speech at Ainsworth, tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Feb. 29</td>
<td>B BB (MS) Invite, 9 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed., March 2</td>
<td>B BB SubDistricts, tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 3-5</td>
<td>B BB SubDistricts Finals, tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., March 5</td>
<td>Girls BB Tournament, tba</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Hemingford**

Mon., Feb. 1  B BB (JH) PanCo at Alliance St. Agnes, 5 p.m.

Tues., Feb. 2  G&B BB (JV-V) at Minatare, 2 p.m.

Wed., Feb. 3  FFA Ag Mechanics at Gordon-Rushville, 9 a.m.

Feb. 4-6  G&B BB Western Trails Conf. at WNCC, tba

Sat., Feb. 6  Speech at Chadron

ACT Test Day

WR at Southeast Duals in

Yoder, Wyo., 10 a.m.

Mon., Feb. 8  School Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

Tues., Feb. 9  G&B BB (JV-V) at Morrill, 4 p.m.

Wed., Feb. 10  Speech Western Trails Conf. at Bridgeport

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**Hay Springs**

Mon., Feb. 1  B BB (JH) PanCo at Alliance St. Agnes, 5 p.m.

Tues., Feb. 2  G&B BB at Hyannis, 4 p.m.

Thurs., Feb. 4  G&B BB (V only) at Little Wound, 6 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 6  G&B BB at Edgemont, 2 p.m.

WR at Southeast Goshen Co., Wyo., 9 a.m.

B BB (JH) at Alliance St. Agnes, 5 p.m.

Thurs., Feb. 11  G&B BB at Crawford, 4 p.m.

Feb. 12-13  District Wrestling

Mon., Feb. 15  B BB (JH) at Crawford, 5 p.m.

Feb. 19-20  State Wrestling

Sat., Feb. 20  B BB (JH) at Gordon-Rushville Tourney, 9 a.m.
Portable generators come in handy during long-term power outages. However, if you do not know how to use them properly, they can be dangerous. Safe Electricity has the following tips too use generators safely. Contact a qualified vendor or electrician to help you determine what generator is best-suited to your needs.

If you are installing a permanent generator, it must have a transfer switch. The transfer switch prevents energy from leaving your generator and going back into power lines where it could harm a lineman, a process known as “back-feed.” A qualified electrician should install your generator and transfer switch.

If you have a portable generator, operate it outdoors in an area with plenty of ventilation. Never run a generator in a home or garage. Generators give off deadly carbon monoxide.

Do not plug a generator into the wall.

Be sure the generator is turned off and cool before fueling it.

Turn off or disconnect all appliances and lights before you begin operating the portable generator. Once the generator is running, turn your appliances and lights on one at a time to avoid overloading the unit. Remember, generators are for temporary usage, prioritize your needs.

Generators pose electrical risks especially when operated in wet conditions. Use a generator only when necessary. Protect the generator by operating it under an open, canopy-like structure on a dry surface where water cannot form puddles or drain under it. Always ensure that your hands are dry before touching the generator.

Keep children and pets away from portable generators at all times. Many generator components are hot enough to burn you during operation.

Safe Electricity suggests that these safety guidelines and basic operating instructions be posted in the home and with the generator. Remember to read and follow manufacturer’s instructions with all your electronics.
Electrical Cord Safety

Being safe when using electrical appliances, extension cords, light bulbs and other equipment is easy, and safety tips should be included in household rules, home-school fire safety and daily behavior expectations for all members of the family. It only takes one mistake to spark an electrical fire, but simple prevention measures can be effective solutions.

Electrical Cord Safety

Every electrical appliance has a cord, and many homes use extension cords to increase the range of electrical outlets. These safety tips can help keep cords in good condition for safe operation:

• Check cords regularly for frays, cracks or kinks, including power tool cords, holiday lights and extension cords. The Canadian Center for Occupations Safety suggests doing this before each use.
• Cords are not jump ropes, clothes lines or leashes, and should never be used for anything other than their intended purpose.
• Cords should be firmly plugged into outlets - if the cord is loose and can pull out easily, choose a different, more snug outlets.
• Do not staple or nail cords in position at any time; if the cord does not remain where desired, use tape or twist ties to secure it.
• Cords should not be placed beneath rugs where they can become a trip hazard or where frays will not be noticeable. Furthermore, covering a cord will prevent it from keeping as cool as possible.
• Do not make modifications to a cord’s plug at any time - do not clip off the third prong or attempt to file down a wider bring to fit in a different outlet.
• Extension cords are a temporary solution only, and their use should be minimized whenever possible.
• Use the proper weight and length of extension cored for the appropriate task, and be sure the cored is rated for indoor or outdoor use, whichever is required.
• When unplugging a cord, pull on the cord at the outlet rather than tug on the cord itself.

Even though electricity is commonplace, there is still quite a bit of danger associated with improper use. Carefully observe all safety measures when using electricity to keep yourself - and your family - safe.

Scholarship Application Deadline: Feb. 12

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Electrical Safety Checklist

Electrical safety should be everyone's priority.

Check everything off this list monthly to make your home as safe as possible for you and your family.

1 | BATHROOM
• All electrical appliances are used away from the sink, tub, toilet and/or shower.
• All appliance cords are unplugged when not in use.
• All appliances are plugged into GFCI (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter) -protected outlets, and GFCIs have been tested monthly.
• All unused outlets have safety caps installed, especially when children are in the home.
• All lighting in your shower area is vapor-tight.

2 | KITCHEN
• Back of refrigerator has room for air circulation and its coils are free of dirt and buildup.
• All electrical appliances are placed and used away from the sink.
• All appliances are plugged into GFCI (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter) -protected outlets, and GFCIs have been tested monthly.
• All electrical cords are not cracked, frayed or damaged in any way.
• Appliance cords are not hanging from tables or counters and are unplugged when not in use.

3 | BASEMENT
• Circuit breaker box is labeled with the last electrical inspection, correct amperage and which rooms, outlets and circuits they service.
• Standard circuit breakers have been inspected, and you’ve considered talking with your licensed electrician about replacing with Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters (AFCIs).
• Washer and dryer do not wobble excessively while running, have room for air circulation, and dryer lint is removed after each use.
• Furnace has been inspected, cleaned and has proper ventilation outside the house.
• Temperature on the water heater is set to 120° or less.

4 | FAMILY ROOM
• All unused outlets have safety caps installed, especially when children are in the home.
• All light switch and outlet covers are not cracked or broken.
• All electrical equipment (lamps, electronics, etc.) are being used without the use of extension cords.

5 | BEDROOM
• All smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are in working order, and are placed outside all sleeping areas and on every level of the house.
• All light fixtures throughout the home are using bulbs not exceeding the fixture’s maximum wattage.
• No electrical cords are resting under rugs or furniture.
• Electronic devices such as phone chargers are unplugged when not in use.
• Window unit air conditioners are plugged in on their own dedicated circuit.

6 | GARAGE
• All electrical cords are not cracked, frayed or damaged in any way – and are never used on a permanent basis.
• Appliance cords are unplugged when not in use.
• All appliances are plugged into GFCI (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter) -protected outlets, and GFCIs have been tested monthly.
• Any garage-stored appliances, like refrigerators and freezers, have dedicated 20 amp appliance circuits.
• All storage boxes are placed away from wiring and plugs.

President’s Day - Feb. 15
The nip in the air tells us winter is here. With colder weather, it is imperative that you make sure your car is winterized. Along with the blankets, candles, matches and snow shovel, don’t forget the food! Even if you are not traveling far, you need to be prepared for the worst. It is important to keep in mind that of all the deaths in winter, 70 percent occur in automobiles.

18 Must Have Car Kit Essentials
1. Fresh drinking water.
2. Food (nuts, dried fruit, energy bars or cans of liquid nourishment).
3. Waterproof matches and candle.
4. Flashlight.
5. Road Flares.
8. First Aid Kit.
10. Collapsible Shovel.
12. Cell Phone & charger.
13. Rope.
15. Duct tape.
16. Tool kit.
17. Gloves, hat and boots.
18. Chains or traction devices.

These basic items should sustain a person for several days. If you are traveling in conditions that may turn hazardous keep in mind to have enough supplies and proper clothing for all members traveling in your vehicle.

Other supplies that are good to have on hand include moist wipes, waterless soap, plastic cups, plastic sandwich bags to serve as a dish and large garbage bags for trash. You might also want to stick in some of the single-use hand warmers to keep hands and feet warm. You can often find these in the hunting and/or sports sections of stores. If you do become stranded, don’t panic. Stay in your vehicle. If you leave your vehicle, you may get lost; especially if visibility is a problem. To avoid carbon monoxide build up inside the vehicle, clear snow from the exhaust pipe and open a downwind window for ventilation. Run the motor and heater only when necessary. It is important to keep fresh air circulating.

If you are concerned about road conditions, call the Nebraska Highway Patrol’s winter road report at 511 or 800-906-9096 or visit http://mb.511.nebraska.gov/ne3g/

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Does Northwest Rural PPD Have Your Correct Phone Number?

Having your current phone number on file allows NRPPD to make contact with you for multiple reasons.

Updated telephone contact information will assist NRPPD in notifying you for a planned outages, billing questions, service change out questions, or even if we come across your cattle on the road.

Please return this form, with your payment, so NRPPD can update your contact information. Thank you for your assistance.

NRPPD account number(s): ____________________
Name: ____________________
Phone number at service address: ________________
Mobile phone number: ____________________
Work phone number: ____________________
(only if we may contact you at work)

Northwest Rural PPD, PO Box 249
Hay Springs, NE 69347 or e-mail: nrppd@nrppd.com
Bits 'en Pieces...  
It was so cold...

...we had to stop eating with metal cutlery. Some people walked around for days with spoons or forks stuck to their tongues!

- It was so cold... hitchhikers were holding up pictures of thumbs!
- It was so cold... when I dialed 911, a recorded message said to phone back in the spring!
- It was so cold... the optician was giving away free ice scrapers with every new pair of eyeglasses!
- It was so cold... kids were using a new excuse to stay up late: "But Mom, my pajamas haven't thawed out yet!"
- It was so cold... the travel agency was advertising tropical vacations in Igloolik!
- It was so cold... pickpockets were sticking their hands in strangers' pockets just to keep them warm!
- It was so cold... the squirrels in the park were throwing themselves at an electric fence!
- It was so cold... I chipped a tooth on my soup!
- It was so cold... Grandpa's teeth were chattering - in the glass!
- It was so cold... the dogs were wearing cats!
- It was so cold... Starbucks was serving coffee on a stick!
- It was so cold... Levi Strauss started manufacturing electric jeans!

• It was so cold... the rats were bribing the alley cats for a snuggle.
• It was so cold... we had to chop up the piano for firewood - but we only got two chords.
• It was so cold... we had to carry around hammers and chisels so we could get out of our parkas!
• It was so cold... kids stopped worrying about acne. The new problem - goosiepimples!
• It was so cold... when we milked the cows, we got ice cream! When we milked the brown cows - we got chocolate ice cream!
• It was so cold... words froze in the air. If you wanted to hear what someone said, you had to grab a handful of sentences and take them in by the fire!
• It was so cold... the dogs had to put jumper cables on the rabbits - just to get them running!
• It was so cold... Playboy magazine stopped publishing because no women would take their clothes off.
• It was so cold... we pulled everything out of the freezer and huddled inside it to warm up!
• It was so cold... the Husky Association was making emergency service calls to get the dog teams started! Then...
• It was so cold... when we parked the sled, we either had to plug in the dogs - or keep them running in place!

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