

My

# HOMETOWN POWER

Fall 2011

**MURFREESBORO  
ELECTRIC**  
DEPARTMENT

## New Move Over law helps keep utility workers safe

**MOVE OVER**  
for utility workers in Tennessee. It's the law.

The State of Tennessee has taken action to protect the lives of utility workers throughout the state. A new law, effective July 1 of this year, requires drivers to slow down and give utility workers enough space to work in safety.

Motorists driving on a four-lane road must now move into the far lane when approaching a utility vehicle that is parked on the roadside with its lights flashing.

When it is not possible to change lanes safely, motorists should slow down and

maintain a safe speed for road conditions. This same rule applies to drivers on two-lane roads.

Tennessee has long had a "move over" law, but it only covered emergency workers and highway maintenance vehicles. The new addition extends the law to protect utility crew workers.

Utility crews encounter many hazards as part of their jobs, from working high off the ground to working near high-voltage power lines. The most dangerous situation a lineman finds himself in,

however, is working on the side of a road or highway — often within a few feet of busy traffic. In fact, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that highway transportation crashes are the leading cause of occupational deaths in the U.S.

According to the Tennessee Department of Safety, more than 100 highway and street construction workers die each year due to vehicle crashes or accidents involving equipment. Another 20,000 are injured in the same way. ♦

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## celebrate Christmas Downtown

Murfreesboro's premier Christmas event

Bring your family, the time is near...  
come Downtown for Christmas cheer!

Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>  
6:00 p.m.

Murfreesboro's Historic Downtown Square  
Continue the Tradition... Only Downtown

Come enjoy... Santa & Mrs. Claus, music & entertainment, the lighting of the official Rutherford County Christmas Tree, beautiful window displays, and carriage rides. Many shops open late!



# Update your information for MED's Outage Reporting System

**Please use this form to update your customer account information. Remove and return with your payment to Murfreesboro Electric Department.**

Name (as it appears on bill): \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Account: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone:     \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

Mobile Phone #1:     \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

Mobile Phone #2:     \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## One simple step to help MED during a power outage

Murfreesboro Electric Department (MED) is dedicated to providing reliable service so that its customers always have access to electricity. Outages, however, are sometimes unavoidable. In order to help restore power as quickly and efficiently as possible, MED has implemented an automated outage reporting system. When a customer calls to report an outage, the system links their phone number with their account. MED knows the location of the outage in less than a minute.

In order for the system to work best, MED needs accurate, updated phone numbers from its customers.

### Please use one of the following methods to update your information:

- Complete and return the form above
- Call customer service at 893-5514
- Visit our website at [www.MurfreesboroElectric.com](http://www.MurfreesboroElectric.com)
- Stop by the MED office

When updating their records, customers should include any number — home and cell — from which they may call to report an outage. With correct numbers, the system will help MED restore power more efficiently. ♦



**To report a power outage, please call (615) 893-5515**

- ♦ **Phone** (for customer service)  
(615) 893-5514
- ♦ **Email**  
[customerservice@murfreesboroelectric.com](mailto:customerservice@murfreesboroelectric.com)
- ♦ **Mail**  
P.O. Box 9  
Murfreesboro, TN 37133-0009
- ♦ **Walk-In or Drive-Thru**  
205 North Walnut Street  
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

**Paying Your Bill:** You may pay your Murfreesboro Electric bill through the mail, at our office, by phone, or on our website at [www.MurfreesboroElectric.com](http://www.MurfreesboroElectric.com).

## Winterize your home for lower heating bills

Is your home ready for winter? By making a few simple changes, you will be more comfortable during the cold months ahead while saving electricity — and money — for your family.

*Here are some simple things you can do to make your home more energy efficient:*

- Make sure that windows and doors are properly sealed with weather stripping. Cold air can enter your home through an unstripped door.
- Use caulking around windows to block wind and cold from entering your home.
- Make sure your home has proper insulation. Insulation is key for trapping in warm air. Only 20% of homes built before 1980 have proper insulation, so if you live in an older home this step can provide an even greater benefit. For more information on how much insulation you need, visit [www.energysavers.gov](http://www.energysavers.gov).
- Keep your thermostat at 68 degrees while you're home and awake, and set it lower when you're away or asleep. Even a few degrees can lower the costs of heating your home. If you have a programmable thermostat, this process can be automatic. ♦