



SPARKS

JULY 2025

Each year, we hold a special event during the month of May in honor of Military Appreciation Month. Pictured is lineman Garrett Zwiebel letting a young guest check out his truck during the event.

WYOMING PASSES WILDFIRE MITIGATION LAW

During the most recent legislative session, the Wyoming legislature enacted a Wildfire Mitigation bill that requires electric utilities, except those owned by cities or towns, to develop and follow a wildfire mitigation plan. These plans must be submitted to the Wyoming Public Service Commission by June each year and updated at least every 5 years.

While wildfires have always been a concern, expanding development, and prolonged dry conditions have increased wildfire risk across the country. These events not only threaten our members' property and the cooperative's assets, but it can also lead to prolonged power outages. That's why High West Energy focuses heavily on this issue and is committed to doing everything we can to minimize this risk.

These plans must include maps showing wildfire-prone areas in their service area, inspection and maintenance schedules for power lines, vegetation management strategies, equipment upgrades to prevent wildfires, and how utilities will coordinate with other utilities

and emergency responders. This plan also must include procedures for monitoring our system during high wildfire risk, how we will restore power, as well as how we will communicate to our members and the public about wildfire risks.

While this is an ongoing commitment, we will continue communicating with our members in our newsletter and social media platforms about what we are doing to mitigate this risk, as well as provide immediate contact to members if there is ever a wildfire-related emergency.

This law officially took effect on July 1, 2025. We'll share more information as we finalize our wildfire mitigation plan for the Commission, but in the meantime, if you ever come across a downed power line or have any concerns regarding this topic, please contact our office at 307-245-3261.

Together, we can help prevent wildfires and protect our communities. Our mission is to serve our members by providing safe, reliable, and reasonably priced energy and services, and every day, we work to fulfill that promise.

HIGH WEST ENERGY



IN THIS ISSUE:

WILDFIRE MITIGATION

2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

High West Energy's mission is to serve our members and communities by providing safe, reliable, and reasonably priced energy and services.

CONTACT US

307-245-3261
www.highwest.coop

MAIN OFFICE

6270 County Road 212
Pine Bluffs, WY 82082

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday
7:30 AM - 5 PM

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provider and employer.*

2025 HIGH WEST ENERGY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Haylee Bruckner

Cheyenne East High School



McCoy Bush

Cheyenne East High School



Chauncy Hendon

Cheyenne Central High School



Jessica Hoffman

Pine Bluffs Jr./Sr. High School



Deanna Horst

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Kimball County High School



Isaac L. Olsen

Banner County High School



Zach Rotert

Potter-Dix Jr./Sr. High School



Blair Sanchez

Burns Jr./Sr. High School



Cooper Sanchez

Burns Jr./Sr. High School



Merina Theobald

Pine Bluffs Jr./Sr. High School



Loriana Walter

Cheyenne East High School

DIRECTOR'S CORNER - Mike Romsa, District 11

Wildfires are no longer confined to the western United States. Traditionally associated with dry, fire-prone regions like California, wildfires are now affecting areas in the Midwest and even parts of the Southeast. As a result, more communities are now facing growing threats from wildfires, prompting a need for broader awareness and preparedness nationwide.

High West Energy is working to reduce the risk of wildfires throughout our service territory. Through regular vegetation management, grid maintenance, and hardening practices, we are proactively working to reduce risks and improve the reliability of our local system.

As a member of High West Energy, there are steps you can take to prevent wildfires.

1. Properly extinguish campfires. Always douse your campfire with water, stir the ashes and ensure everything is cool to the touch before leaving the area.
2. Don't burn on windy days. Avoid outdoor burning when it's windy or dry, as embers can easily spread and ignite surrounding areas.
3. Clear vegetation and debris. Maintain a defensible space around your home by removing dry leaves, dead branches and other flammable materials.
4. Use equipment safely. Tools like lawnmowers or chainsaws can spark fires. Use them during cooler times of the day and keep them in good working condition.
5. Follow local fire regulations. Always check for burn bans or restrictions in your area before burning anything or using open flames outdoors.

