

to our ecosystem, and pollinator friendly yards and gardens are becoming increasingly popular.

Lush, perfectly manicured lawns have long been a point of pride for homeowners. But, as you may have noticed in your own neighborhood, more homeowners are looking for ways to make their yards pollinator

native flowers and plants.

Milkweed, for example, is integral to the survival of the monarch butterfly. Insects lay their eggs on the plant, and it is the only food that monarch caterpillars will eat. Choosing the right mix of plants can make a big difference for butterflies, bees and other pollinators.

program, OPPD is also working to create habitats hospitable to pollinators as well as to other insects and animals.

You don't have to replace your entire lawn with native grass and flowers to make a difference. Even small changes are helpful.

Beat the summer heat with \$25 HVAC tune-up rebate

OPPD is offering \$25 HVAC tune-up rebates to help people save money and stay comfortable.

Your AC unit works hard to keep you cool all summer long. But it needs regular maintenance to stay in top shape.

An HVAC tune-up can reduce your energy bill, improve air quality and prevent inconvenient breakdowns during the sweltering summer months.

To get the \$25 rebate, you need to:

- 1. Schedule a tune-up with an OPPD-certified HVAC contractor. The contractor will sign and complete an 8-point tune-up checklist.
- 2. Submit your checklist and rebate application via OPPD's online portal.
- 3. You should receive a check within 60 days.

To learn more and locate an HVAC contractor, scan the OR code with your phone or visit oppd.com.

The HVAC rebate program page is available by selecting the "Residential" dropdown menu on OPPD's home page, then scrolling down

to "Products and Services." That will open another menu that includes the "HVAC Tune-Up Rebates" page.



AUGUST BOARD MEETINGS

All-committee meeting: Tuesday, Aug. 15 (see oppd.com/BoardMeeting for details). Regular board meeting: Thursday, Aug. 17, 5 p.m. (see oppd.com/BoardMeeting for details). Hearing-impaired call 531-226-3208, 72 hours prior to request an interpreter. Agendas posted and meetings viewable on oppd.com/BoardMeeting.

Outlets

OUR MISSION

Provide affordable, reliable and environmentally sensitive energy services to our customers.



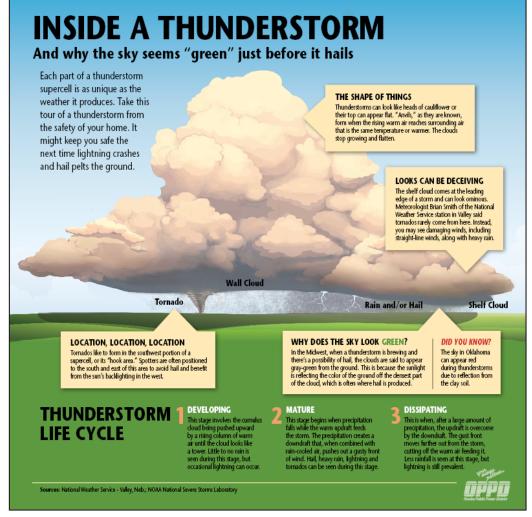
Thunderstorm season is here

Thunderstorms are a powerful, all-too-familiar force in the Midwest this time of year, and the most severe can pack a powerful punch.

But what exactly is a "severe thunderstorm?" The National Weather Service defines it as a storm that produces quarter-size hail or larger, winds of at least 58 mph, and/or a tornado.

A severe thunderstorm "watch" is an advisory to be prepared, because severe weather is possible. A severe thunderstorm "warning" is a call to take action, because severe weather is imminent. People in a severe thunderstorm's path should take shelter immediately and check for forecast updates from local media and the weather service.

Here's a graphic outlining the anatomy of a thunder-storm:



Line workers at the ready to keep power on

OPPD line workers have a tough but fulfilling job, one that demands teamwork, precision and a never-ending focus on safety.

They're also part of a select, highly respected and tightknit community. And their job is more important than ever in OPPD's fast-growing service district. More residents mean more infrastructure to build, more equipment to maintain and more issues to fix in the field.

Becoming a full-fledged journeyman line worker usually takes six years. Aspiring line workers generally spend two years in a line school program offered by local community colleges. After they finish, they may get a chance to apply for a job through OPPD's apprentice line worker boot camp.

If chosen, they then spend four years as an apprentice where they gain hands-on experience. At the end of their apprenticeship, they take an extensive, multi-day test to become journeymen.

Even at that point, their education never stops. Line workers continue to build experience, learn new skills and teach newer crew members about their trade. With experience comes new opportunities to lead and serve the public and a lifetime of pride.

7"x 2.5" AD SPACE AVAILABLE IN 2023 Proceeds benefit EAP. For details, please email Iskinghoman@oppd.com.