

Find more outage information online

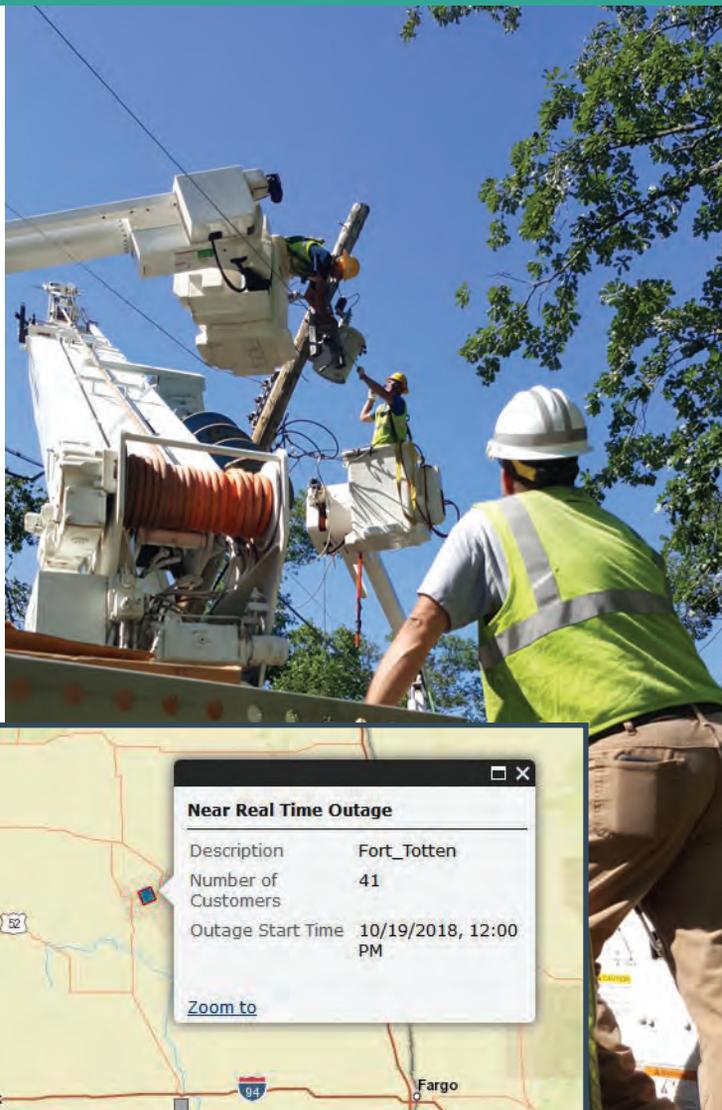
Wondering about a power outage in your area? Check out otpc.com/outages for outage information and our new and improved outage map. We've installed technology throughout our service area that helps us identify outages more quickly and improves the accuracy of our online outage map. If there's an outage at one of our feeders or distribution substations, the map shows the location, number of affected customers, and what time the outage started.

If the power goes out:

- **Check your service panel.** Make sure you haven't blown a fuse or tripped a circuit breaker.
- **Call us.** This helps our crews pinpoint the issue. If you experience a busy signal or get disconnected, please try calling us again in a few minutes! Occasionally during major outages, our phone system becomes overwhelmed with the quantity of calls. We want to hear from you and are doing our best to retrieve your call.
- **Turn off or unplug appliances.** This will help avoid possible damage when power is restored.

Visit otpc.com/outages for outage information.

To report an outage, call us 24/7 at **800-257-4044** or **218-739-8877**.



Use a smart thermostat to help you save

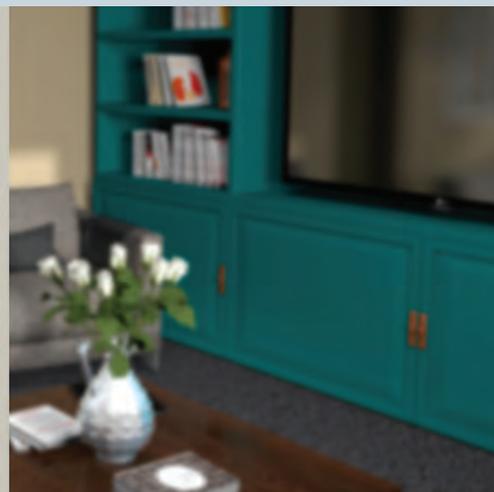
Taking a trip this winter? A smart thermostat lets you automatically control your home's heating and air conditioning—from anywhere!

- Some learn your home energy use preferences over time and make automatic adjustments.
- Manage your home's settings from any device that's connected to the Internet (like your smartphone or tablet).
- Save energy—and money—by setting a schedule to control the temperature of your home.



If you're a Minnesota customer, you also can receive a rebate up to \$150 if you install a smart thermostat in your home.

Visit otpc.com/GoSmart for more information.



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How to stay warm—and safe—with electric devices

The dark, cold days of winter have many pulling out space heaters and electric blankets. Make sure you're using them safely by following these tips:

- **Follow the manufacturer's instructions.** And purchase only newer-model heaters that have all current safety features, including protective casing and automatic shut-off.
- **Turn them off when you're not using.** It's not safe to leave space heaters or electric blankets on if there's no one monitoring.
- **Don't overload your wiring.** Check the wattage and make sure you have adequate capacity in your home wiring. Signs of an overloaded circuit include a blown fuse, tripped circuit breaker, or a warm outlet or wall surrounding the outlet.
- **Check the surroundings.** Don't use these near flammable materials like curtains, bedding, and newspapers. And keep them away from wet areas like bathtubs and sinks.
- **Avoid using an extension cord.** If you do need one, be sure the extension cord is heavy duty and don't run it under rugs.



Try a new way to drive

Electric vehicles are becoming more common throughout the Midwest, especially as charging stations are more readily available along our roadways.

If you're installing a Level 2 charging station on a dedicated 240V circuit, you may qualify for a rebate when you install it on an off-peak rate.

Learn more at otpc.com/DriveOn.



Customers' cookery

Baked chopped suey

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 pound hamburger | 1 ½ cups water |
| 1 onion, chopped | ½ cup uncooked rice |
| 1 cup celery, chopped | 4 tablespoons soy sauce |
| 1 can cream of mushroom soup | 1 can chow mein noodles |
| 1 can cream of chicken soup | |

Brown hamburger and onion. Mix hamburger, onion, celery, soups, water, rice, and soy sauce together. Bake in greased casserole dish at 350 degrees for one hour. Sprinkle top with chow mein noodles and bake another 15 minutes.

Submitted by Pat Bach, Wheaton, Minnesota.



EMPLOYEE PROFILE

Jerry Nuss



Business Planning Financial/Rates Analyst

Jerry is responsible for preparing our company's annual revenue

forecast and updating it quarterly. He also performs monthly financial variance analysis and updates the current year's financial forecast. Jerry is involved with the Boy Scouts of America and the Otter Tail Credit Union. He and his wife Jodie have three children.

Customers, meet Jerry!

Learn about your electricity

Many people don't know a lot about electricity, even though it's an essential part of everyday life. Our company's *Your electricity* brochure offers useful information about where electricity comes from, how we calculate rates, and ways to reduce your electricity use.

Find the brochure at otpc.com/YourElectricity.

Your electricity



Fuel sources
Air emissions
Minnesota CIP
Components of electricity



otpc.com

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Send your favorite recipe to rmichael@otpc.com or to the above address.

If we use your recipe, we'll send you a gift to thank you.

Please recycle

