

NREA GRASSROOTS NEWS



Take Action Alert

Participation Totals.

Burt	6
Butler	20
Cedar-knox	11
Chimney Rock	6
Cornhusker	12
Cuming Co.	10
Custer	32
Dawson	27
Elkhorn	16
High West	2
Howard-Greeley	11
KBR	6
Loup Valleys	6
McCook	17
Midwest	20
Niobrara Valley	5
Norris	28
North Central	4
Northeast	5
Northwest	9
PREMA	6
Polk Co.	12
Roosevelt	16
Seward County	13
South Cental	5
Southwest	7
Stanton Co.	7
Twin Valleys	14
Wheat Belt	16

Total 413



Photo by Wayne Price.

NREA Candidate Training School Scheduled

November 17th in Lincoln and November 18th in North Platte, the Nebraska Rural Electric Association will host a Candidate Training School. The school is designed to provide information and tools to make the election process less intimidating and to help participants organize a winning campaign.

The school is open to candidates or key staff of any political party. Campaign veterans and professionals will focus on fundraising, campaign strategy, message development, and communication skills. Attendees will also learn about campaign rules and regulations from the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission.

The Candidate Training School was created jointly by the NREA and the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association to help individuals sharpen their political skills and prepare for the rigors of the campaign trail from school boards to federal offices.

We often have employees and board members that are interested in attending this event. Please help us to get the word out by making an announcement at your member-system and doing what you can to promote the event. The NREA has developed, and

Important Dates:

Seward County PPD GR Presentation	September 28
North Central PPD GR Presentation	October 5
Polk Co. RPPD GR Presentation	October 7
Cedar-Knox PPD GR Presentation	October 7
McCook PPD GR Presentation	October 18
South Central PPD GR Presentation	October 18
Niobrara Valley GR Presentation	October 19

I have attached to this email, an advertisement for this event which can be posted in each of your offices and used to promote the school. Please make sure any candidates for office in your area receive a personal invitation to attend. Registration forms are available at the NREA office and can be obtained by asking James Dukesherer for further information 402.475.4988 or email judukesherer@nrea.org.

NREA Activates Grassroots with EPA Take Action Alert

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recently issued a number of rules aimed at the generation of electricity from coal plants which if implemented could cost Nebraska's electric ratepayers millions of dollars. This month, the NREA asked our board members, employees and interested consumers to contact their members of the House of Representatives and let them know that we support the passage of the TRAIN Act. If enacted, this measure would require an impact analysis of these costly EPA regulations prior to their implementation. With your support Nebraska sent more than 400 messages to our members of the House of Representatives and the bill passed the House of Representatives with all three of Nebraska's delegation supporting the bill.

The measure can now move on to the Senate.

How did your member-system do with the Take Action Alert?

Have a look at the participation numbers of the recent Take Action Alert on the front page. What a great turnout for Nebraska coming in second nationwide only to Georgia on the number of messages sent to our members of the House of Representatives. Thank you to all of you for your work.

After an action alert is finished it is important to evaluate your member-system efforts and share feedback with your employees and board members. With the advent of the Rural Electric 15 list each member-system now has a list of 15 individuals who have pledged to “take action” on these important issues. Did your member-system make that 15 mark? Did everyone on your RE 15 list fulfill their commitment to take action? Please follow up with these individuals. A little feedback and follow up today will help to promote the culture of grassroots participation we are trying to create with the Grassroots Initiative.

Participation in grassroots activities can be challenging for our member-systems. Over the past three and a half years that the NREA has worked to build the Grassroots Initiative, it has become clear that familiarity with the program is vital to its success. Employees and board members have to be knowledgeable and feel comfortable with the program before they will recognize a call to action as important and will follow through by reaching out to their elected representatives. This can only be achieved by keeping the Grassroots Initiative in front of these individuals.

Please make sure that all employees and board members attend the NREA annual grassroots member-system presentation. Print out this report and make it available to everyone and try to keep grassroots on the safety meeting and board meeting agendas. Keeping a grassroots message in front of everyone will remind us all of the existence of the program and the importance of each individual as a participant.

On a separate note I would like to say that these participation numbers show that a number of our member-systems have been hard at work implementing their grassroots programs and we here at the NREA are taking note of your progress and appreciate your continued efforts.

Grassroots Notes

- Every week new candidates are announcing their bids for the upcoming 2012 elections. If you have new candidates in your area please be sure to let the NREA know and keep us in the loop. Also, be sure to invite these candidates to your offices and start to build a working relationship with these individuals right away.
- The State of Nebraska along with six other states has announced that they will pursue a lawsuit against the EPA for its Cross-State Air Pollution Rule. The rule could force Nebraska electric generators millions of dollars, reduce electric generation, and raise rates on consumers. The NREA will be tracking this issue closely and the time may come for our grassroots to be activated. Be sure to continue to follow this issue closely as it develops further.
- Dawson PPD, Cuming County PPD, and Perennial PPD need to contact James at the NREA to schedule your annual member-system grassroots presentation ASAP.
- Please make sure to keep the NREA updated on any email changes for your staff and notified of any new employees that need to be added to the grassroots email database. We want to make sure everyone is able to receive Take Action Alerts when the time comes. If an individual says they did not receive the last take action alert please notify the NREA, we want to make sure to clear this up before the next action alert.