



**Grateful for Those
Who Keep Us Safe**

This season of thanks gives us the perfect opportunity to pause and recognize the people who keep our homes and communities safe — not just on the holidays, but every single day. From firefighters and first responders to law enforcement and emergency crews, these men and women often spend long hours away from their own families so that we can enjoy time with ours. Their sacrifice and dedication deserve our deepest gratitude.

At SEI REMC, we are especially thankful for our linemen and fiber technicians. Whether it's restoring power after a storm or keeping our internet connections strong, their work allows us to share meals, watch the big game, and stay connected with loved ones near and far. Weather may slow the rest of us down, but it never slows them down. When outages or emergencies occur, they respond without hesitation — often in harsh conditions — to make sure our members can return to comfort and safety as quickly as possible.

These dedicated crews are more than just employees — they are neighbors, friends, and community members. They leave their families at a moment's notice, sometimes in the middle of the night, to climb poles, repair lines, and troubleshoot connections. It's not just a job; it's a calling. And it's because of their commitment that we can enjoy the holidays with light, warmth, and connection.

As we enjoy the holiday season, let's remember that many of these workers will be on call or in the field while we're at home celebrating. The best way we can thank them is not only with words, but also with respect for the work they do. If you see crews on the road or in your neighborhood, please slow down, give them space, and drive with caution. Their safety depends on it — and a few extra moments of patience on our part could save a life.

We also want to recognize the ripple effect of their work. A safe and reliable electric system means peace of mind for families. A steady internet connection allows students to study, businesses to thrive, and loved ones to connect virtually during the holiday season. These things we often take for granted are possible only because skilled, dedicated workers are out there making them happen.

This November, as we gather with gratitude, let's honor the men and women whose hard work and sacrifice keep our homes bright, our families connected, and our communities safe. That's *The Power of Thanks* in action.

BE PROACTIVE: Eliminate Holiday Hazards

Test alarms before the season begins

Check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, and replace batteries if needed.

Use caution in the kitchen

Never leave stovetops unattended — cooking fires are one of the leading holiday hazards.

Decorate with care

Inspect extension cords and lights for frays, and avoid overloading outlets.

Heat safely

Keep space heaters at least three feet from anything flammable and turn them off when leaving the room.

Drive mindfully

Holiday traffic and weather conditions can make roads unpredictable. Buckle up, slow down, and give utility and emergency crews room to work.

