

# Safety Is Paramount In Our Work



**Shaun Lamp**

President & Chief Executive Officer

At GLE, we always prioritize safety. In fact, “Safety is paramount in our work” appears at the top of our cooperative’s list of seven guiding principles.

Because May is designated “Electrical Safety Month,” I had originally planned to focus on safety in last month’s issue of Country Lines, highlighting the importance we place on safety for our staff, our members, and the community. Little did I know how soon that message would need to be amplified.

Never in GLE’s history was this focus more important than during our recent storm response and ongoing recovery efforts. In addition to the everyday hazards our field crews face because of the nature of their work, they, along with more than 1,300 mutual aid and contract workers, faced many more risks because of the storm. Not only did they face danger from falling trees, branches, and ice, but the sheer number of people working to clear trees, rebuild our infrastructure, and restore power required precise coordination and effective communication to ensure the work was completed as efficiently and safely as possible.

Safety was also featured prominently in our storm-related communications. The storm reinforced how important it is for us to provide you with the information you need to help keep yourselves and our crews safe from electrical hazards. That’s why we regularly share information about common household hazards to avoid, along with information about outage-related hazards such as downed power lines and how to safely use a generator, so it won’t create a danger for you, your neighbors, or our lineworkers.

Because we prioritize connecting with the communities we serve, we also take our safety education efforts a step further by taking them on the road, offering two safety demonstration programs, each targeted toward different audiences.



## POWERTOWN

Our Powertown program brings a tabletop demonstration designed for indoor settings that is ideal for students and youth groups. The demonstration is geared toward students in grades 3-7 and is presented by current or retired GLE employees who cover the basics of how electricity gets to homes and electrical safety concepts.



## HOTLINE DEMONSTRATIONS

Our hotline demonstration program includes a trailer display for outdoor presentations. This life-sized experience is ideal for first responders, road commission staff, and community groups.

These programs allow us to bring these important safety messages to life in person in the communities we serve. To schedule a free safety demonstration for your school or group, please complete and submit the online form at [gtlakes.com/community-outreach/#safety](https://gtlakes.com/community-outreach/#safety).

By prioritizing electrical safety year-round, we can all work together to help ensure the well-being of our families, friends, co-workers, and the community.



# IT'S TIME TO VOTE

## For a Board Member

Next month Great Lakes Energy members in three director districts will receive a mail-in ballot with their July/August issue of Michigan Country Lines. These ballots will also include instructions on how members can cast their votes online.

Three board positions, each for three years, will need to be filled. Qualifying GLE members who reside in districts 6, 8, or 9 can seek election to the board and will be listed on the member's respective ballots.

### COUNTIES BY DISTRICT ARE:

**District 6** – Lake and Mason counties

**District 8** – Clare, Mecosta, Newaygo, and Osceola counties

**District 9** – Allegan, Barry, Kent, Montcalm, and Ottawa counties



Janet Andersen

Howard Bowersox

John LaForge

The terms of directors Janet Andersen of Ludington (District 6), Howard Bowersox of Stanwood (District 8), and John LaForge of Delton (District 9) expire this year. The three incumbents plan to seek reelection.

In addition to the mail-in ballot and online voting instructions, the candidates' profiles will appear in the July/August election issue that will be sent to members in Districts 6, 8, and 9. Profiles will also be available in the online version of the July/August issue which will be available at [countrylines.com/my-co-op/great-lakes/](http://countrylines.com/my-co-op/great-lakes/).



**Winners will be announced on Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2025, at the cooperative's annual business meeting.**



## Safety Is the Name of the Game

At GLE, safety is always our number one priority for our employees, our members, and the community. While this focus is part of our daily routine, it becomes especially important during severe weather events, such as the major ice storm that caused unprecedented damage to the northern portions of our service area earlier this year.

With summer storm season upon us, we want you to have the information you need to stay safe.

### LEARN MORE

Visit [gtlakes.com/power-outages](http://gtlakes.com/power-outages) or scan the QR code to watch a video that provides important storm-related safety information.



Headquarters:  
1323 Boyne Avenue,  
Boyne City, MI 49712

 [gtlakes.com](http://gtlakes.com)

 [facebook.com/greatlakesenergy](https://facebook.com/greatlakesenergy)

 [truestreamfiber.com](http://truestreamfiber.com)

 [facebook.com/jointruestream](https://facebook.com/jointruestream)

 (888) 485-2537

 [glenergy@glenergy.com](mailto:glenergy@glenergy.com)

*Great Lakes Energy is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*