



December 4, 2018

Manitoba Hydro continues replacing wood poles in Whiteshell Provincial Park

WINNIPEG — A Manitoba Hydro project to replace older wood poles in the Falcon Lake, Caddy Lake, West Hawk Lake, Star Lake and Brereton Lake areas is scheduled to continue early in the new year.

Approximately 200 poles will be replaced during the second year of the project. The work is being carried out during the winter months when fewer people are in the region.

All activities will be in strict compliance of Manitoba Sustainable Development regulations and work permits.

Crews replacing poles may have to enter cottage lots to access poles. Temporary outages will be required as poles are replaced. Some pole replacement work may require tree trimming.

Motorists are advised to decrease their speed when encountering Manitoba Hydro vehicles stopped alongside road ways as workers are present.

The project is part of Manitoba Hydro's annual pole testing, inspection and maintenance program in which wood poles that have reached end of life are replaced. Wood poles are degraded due to natural decomposition, insect or woodpecker activity and by damage caused by winds, storms and unreported vehicle collisions.

Many of the poles to be replaced were first installed during electrification of the Whiteshell in the 1950s.

Manitoba Hydro's mandate is to provide safe and reliable energy to its customers in a safe and responsible manner. The maintenance of our electrical distribution power lines is a key component in meeting this mandate.

The Crown utility operates more than 68,000 kilometres of electrical distribution power lines in Whiteshell Provincial Park. These power lines serve homes, cottages and businesses.

The areas for poles to be replaced include:

- North Side of Brereton Lake off Highway 307 and 309
- Star Lake Beach Area
- South of Star Lake West of PR 301
- South of West Hawk Lake off Highway 44
- Area around Falcon Lake
- South of Caddy Lake along PR312 and along PR44
- North between West Hawk Lake and Star Lake

Please contact Manitoba Hydro in Winnipeg at 204-480-5900 or toll-free at 1-888-624-9376 or email Corporate Communications at PublicAffairs@hydro.mb.ca for further information.

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Fallen tree or branches touching a power line:

- If you see a tree or branch that has fallen on a power line, stay at least 10 metres away, and call **911** or your local emergency services immediately.
- A tree touching a power line can be energized — stay away from it and from anything the line may be touching.
- Do not remove tree limbs on power lines as they may still be energized.
- Many outages caused by trees could be prevented by ensuring you do not plant your trees too close to power lines. See [Right Tree—Right Place](#) on our website for more information.