

AGENDA

EVENT LIST

DESCRIPTIONS

2024
APPRENTICE
LINEWORKER
RODEO

JUNE
5-6TH





NEPPA's annual **Apprentice Lineworker Program Skills Assessment Rodeo** will be held **Wednesday, June 5 – Thursday, June 6, 2023** at **NEPPA's Training Center** (200 New Estate Road, Littleton, MA 01460).

NOTE: Attendance and participation in the Apprentice Rodeo is required as a part of each student's overall hours and completion in the program. Any student unable to attend or participate during the event will be required to make-up the time and competencies measured during the event.

Enclosed, you will find the 2024 Skills Assessment Rodeo Events including clear expectations and required equipment. All events are one-man events. Scoring is based on the **safe and accurate completion of each event**. Time is only used as a tiebreaker.

Managers, supervisors, guests, and vendors are welcome to this event. Please check-in at the registration desk, by the garage, upon arrival.

AGENDA

Agenda details are subject to change.

Day 1 – June 5, 2024

7:30 am Registration Opens
(Students must sign in upon arrival)

8:30 am Opening Ceremony

8:40 am Year 1 & 2 students report to classrooms 1 & 2 immediately after ceremony, for written test

9:00 am Events begin

11:30 am Lunch (will be staggered)

2:00 pm Rodeo adjourns for the day

Day 2 – June 6, 2024

7:30 am Registration Opens
(Students must sign in upon arrival)

8:00 am Events Continue

11:30 am Lunch (will be staggered)

1:00 pm Awards Ceremony

2:00 pm Rodeo adjourns



WHAT TO BRING

Apprentices should bring the following equipment each day:

Personal Protective Equipment:

- ✓ Climbing Gear
- ✓ Leather Gloves
- ✓ Hardhat
- ✓ Safety Toe Boots
- ✓ Safety Glasses
- ✓ Your Utility Work Uniform
- ✓ Rubber Gloves

GENERAL RULES

1. Everyone inside the pole yard area **MUST WEAR** Hardhats and Safety Glasses
2. **Gloves** are required on some events
3. Each pole **MUST BE** Sounded before climbing. There are no exceptions!
4. Climbers **MUST HAVE GAFF GUARDS ON** when walking to/from each event or REMOVE climbers! DQ may result
5. The fall arrest device must be in position at all times, to prevent a fall. **NO CHEATING!! The green strap of the BuckSqueeze must always contact the pole.**
6. ***** Horseplay and unprofessional behavior will not be tolerated. *****
7. Each Apprentice must complete all events assigned to their class.
8. Complete **STOP on WHISTLE!**

QUESTIONS?

Please contact training@neppa.org or call the office at (978) 540-2200



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Schedule details are subject to change.

Apprentice Lineworker **Years 1-3** Events are as follows:

- Hurt Man Rescue
- House Service
- Transition/Obstacle Course
- Cutout Changeout
- Fall Protection
- Manhole Rescue
- Written test (Years 1 & 2)

Apprentice Lineworker **Year 4** Events are as follows:

- Hurt Man Rescue
- Transition/Obstacle Course
- Cutout Changeout
- Fall Protection
- Dead-end
- Single arm

EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

EVENT#1 HURT MAN RESCUE: TIMED EVENT (Years 1 – 4)

Apprentice must remain IN CONTROL and complete steps as quickly and SAFELY as possible:

1. **Sound pole**, Time starts when given “GO” command
2. **Call** for Help giving exact location and nature of emergency
3. **Assess** the situation to ascertain that the HURT MAN can be safely rescued
4. **Ascend** the pole and safely move the HURT MAN to the ground (Cross arm)
5. **Descend** the pole **and begin First Aid/CPR**
6. **Time stops** when Contestant descends, unclips from pole and starts CPR

Average score: 109

Average time: 4:24

EVENT #2 HOUSE SERVICE CHANGEOUT (must use gloves) (Years 1 – 3)

Apprentice must remain IN CONTROL and complete steps as quickly and SAFELY as possible:

1. **Sound pole**, Time starts when given “GO” command
2. **Ascend** pole safely with Fall Protection and attach hand line to pole
3. **Disconnect** service in proper order
4. **Secure** “live” ends
5. **Call** for PULLING GRIP and install on service conductor
6. **Lower** to the ground
7. **Call** for service and reinstall on J Hook
8. **Make** secondary connections in proper order
9. **Time stops** when contestant descends and unclips from pole.

Average Score: 97

Average time: 7:47

EVENT #3 **TRANSITION CLIMB** (Years 1 – 4)

Apprentice must remain IN CONTROL and complete steps as quickly and SAFELY as possible:

1. **Sound pole**, Time starts when given “GO” command
2. **Climb** on **Cross-arm side** and transition over both arms moving hardware to other side
3. **Contact** upper arm
4. **Descend** and transition both arms on arm side, **DO NOT STEP ON CROSS-ARM or GRAB THE BRACES.**
5. **Descend pole** – Time stops when touching the ground and unclipping from pole

Average score: 98.67

Average time: 8:06

EVENT #4 **CUTOUT CHANGEOUT** (Years 1 – 4)

Apprentice must remain IN CONTROL and complete steps as quickly and SAFELY as possible:

1. **Sound pole**, Time starts when given “GO” command
2. **Ascend** pole – cover up the lines as necessary
3. **Open** cutout with stick and **remove** tap with shotgun stick
4. **Remove** secondary taps in proper sequence
5. **Remove** cutout and lower to the ground
6. **Call** for new cutout and **install** on the pole
7. **Reconnect** secondary taps in proper sequence
8. **Reinstall** Tap with shotgun stick and **Close cutout** with switch stick and send down
9. **Descend pole** - Time stops when in contact with the ground and unclips from pole

Average score: 88

Average time: 7:23

EVENT #5 **FALL PROTECTED CLIMB** (Years 1 – 4)

Apprentice must remain IN CONTROL and complete steps as quickly and SAFELY as possible:

1. **Sound pole**, Time starts when given “GO” command
2. **Climb pole** with Fall Protection Device and contact Bell
3. **Descend pole** safely and in control
4. A fall into fall protective device will mean disqualification
5. Timed Event must Ring Bell
6. Deductions for improper technique and climbing beyond ability
7. Green strap must be in contact with pole at all times
8. **Time stops** when ground is contacted with both feet

Average score: 99

Average time: 1:10

EVENT #6 **DEAD-END INSULATOR CHANGEOUT** (treat as energized 5 kv) (Year 4 only)

Apprentice must remain IN CONTROL and complete steps as quickly and SAFELY as possible:

1. **Sound pole**, Time start when given “GO” command
2. **Climb** to position and call for line hoses and cover neutral, transition over
3. **Remove old insulator** with appropriate cover and rigging
4. **Install new insulator**, clip in conductor
5. **Move to safe position** and remove cover up and lower to ground
6. **Descend pole** - Time stops when both feet are on the ground

Average score: 95

Average time: 10:14

EVENT #7 **SINGLE ARM CHANGEOUT** (Year 4 only)

Apprentice must remain IN CONTROL and complete steps as quickly and SAFELY as possible:

1. **Sound pole**, Time starts when given “GO” command
2. **Climb** to work position
3. **Remove the cross-arm** and lower it to ground
4. **Reinstall the cross-arm**; all hardware must be tight
5. **Time stops** when both feet are on the ground

Average score: 98.67

Average time: 9:19

EVENT #8 **MANHOLE ENCLOSED/CONFINED SPACE RESCUE** (Years 1 – 3)

Apprentice must remain IN CONTROL and complete steps as quickly and SAFELY as possible:

1. **Time starts** when given “GO” command
2. **Call out** to mannequin to see his status
3. **Order** someone to call 911
4. **Rescue mannequin** out of manhole, must not drop mannequin
5. **Time stops** when the cage is rotated back (the judge will determine the angle of the cage.)

Average score: 99

Average time: 1:10

EVENT #9 **WRITTEN TEST** (Years 1 & 2)

Exam is timed and students have a max of 20 minutes to complete it.

Exam contains 25 multiple choice questions covering the following topics:

Year 1

1. Power Delivery
2. Safety
3. Working in Elevated Positions
4. Knots, Splices, Ropes
5. Electrical Systems

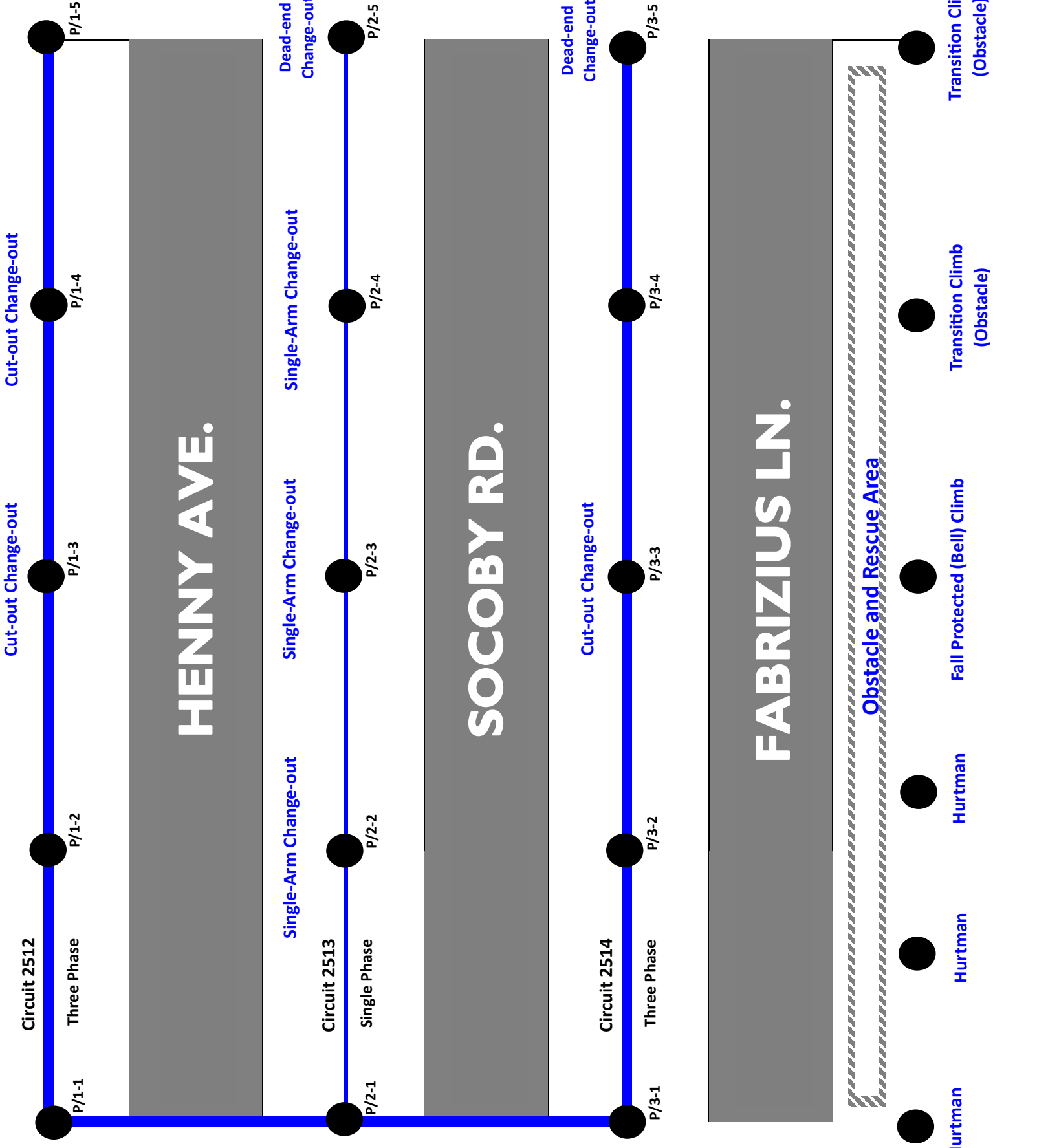
Year 2

1. Safety
2. AC Fundamentals
3. Personal Protective Equipment
4. Live Line Equipment
5. Rigging

Average score: 95

Average time: 5:39

NEPPA WAY



Line Worker Apprentice Rodeo: Rotation Schedule

Years 1-3

1	2	3	4	5	6
Fall Protection	House Service	Enclosed Space Rescue	Cutout Change-Out	Hurt Man Rescue	Transition/Obstacle Course
Transition/Obstacle Course	Fall Protection	House Service	Enclosed Space Rescue	Cutout Change-Out	Hurt Man Rescue
Hurt Man Rescue	Transition/Obstacle Course	Fall Protection	House Service	Enclosed Space Rescue	Cutout Change-Out
Cutout Change-Out	Hurt Man Rescue	Transition/Obstacle Course	Fall Protection	House Service	Enclosed Space Rescue
Enclosed Space Rescue	Cutout Change-Out	Hurt Man Rescue	Transition/Obstacle Course	Fall Protection	House Service
House Service	Enclosed Space Rescue	Cutout Change-Out	Hurt Man Rescue	Transition/Obstacle Course	Fall Protection

Line Worker Apprentice Rodeo: Rotation Schedule

Year 4

1	2	3	4	5	6
Dead-End Change-out	Fall Protection	Single-Arm Change-out	Transition/ Obstacle Course	Hurt Man Rescue	Cutout Change-out
Cutout Change-out	Dead-End Change-out	Fall Protection	Single-Arm Change-out	Transition/ Obstacle Course	Hurt Man Rescue
Hurt Man Rescue	Cutout Change-out	Dead-End Change-out	Fall Protection	Single-Arm Change-out	Transition/ Obstacle Course
Transition/ Obstacle Course	Hurt Man Rescue	Cutout Change-out	Dead-End Change-out	Fall Protection	Single-Arm Change-out
Single-Arm Change-out	Transition/ Obstacle Course	Hurt Man Rescue	Cutout Change-out	Dead-End Change-out	Fall Protection
Fall Protection	Single-Arm Change-out	Transition/ Obstacle Course	Hurt Man Rescue	Cutout Change-out	Dead-End Change-out

**2024 Apprentice Lineworker Program
Skills Assessment Rodeo
Student Roster**

Year 1

Tymoteusz	Adamczyk	Wallingford Electric
Mark	Baker	Power & Construction Group
Brandon	Brooks	Fox Islands Electric Cooperative
Cameron	Cartwright	Holyoke Gas & Electric Department
Xavier	Colon	Holyoke Gas & Electric Department
TY	Duncan	Power & Construction Group
Tyler	Eastman	Burlington Electric
Chase	Ellwood	Power & Construction Group
TJ	Farrar	Houlton Water Company
James	Gallagher	Chicopee Electric Light
Collin	Jandreau	Wallingford Electric
Elijah	LaPlume	Hyde Park
Jeffrey	Lareau	Burlington Electric
Andrew	Lewis	Houlton Water Company
Dylan	Nance	Norwich Public Utilities
Jordan	O'Connor	Kennebunk Light
Ryan	Spingler	Power & Construction Group
Cameron	Vanderpool	Power & Construction Group
Trent	Viamari	Holyoke Gas & Electric Department
Joseph	Abdou	Island Lighting and Power Systems Inc.
Kevin	Allard	Reading Municipal Light Department
Chris	Cerqueira	Hingham Municipal Light
Sean	Coughlin	Norwood Municipal Light Department
James	Dapson	Oneida-Madison Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Phil	DaSilva	Groveland Light
Derek	Depasquale	Ipswich Municipal Light Department
Robert	Donahue	Hudson Light & Power
Noah	Eldridge	Ashland Municipal Electric Department
Nick	Foster	Groton Electric
Mark	Henry	Norwood Municipal Light Department
Zachary	Ingham	Peabody Municipal Light Plant
Jeffrey	LeBlanc	Danvers Electric
Brennan	McGuire	Mansfield Electric Department
Gabriel	Miller	Ludlow Electric Light Department
Mathieu	Mitchell	Phoenix Communication, Inc.
Tyler	Moran	Belmont Light
Patrick	Morgan-Poirier	Phoenix Communication, Inc.
Jake	Pinard	Littleton Electric Light
Sam	Poirer	Belmont Light
Jeremy	Rodriguez	Phoenix Communication, Inc.
Conor	Sheehan	Norwood Municipal Light Department
Joe	Snow	Marblehead Light
Robert	Wells	Shrewsbury Electric Light & Cable Operations

43 Students

Year 2

Joshua	Bergeron	Vermont Electric Coop
Paul	Bouchard	Swanton Village Electric
Daniel	Caifa	Village of Rockville Centre Electric
Gary	Corso	Wallingford Electric
Andrew	Dunn	Westfield Gas & Electric
Sean	Flynn	Wolfeboro Municipal Electric
Jacob	Goodrich	New Hampshire Electric Cooperative
Harrison	Hall	Fishers Island Electric
Joseph	Hastings	Lyndon Electric
Patrick	Liptak	Westfield Gas & Electric
Fynn	Moran	Norwich Public Utilities
Nathan	Parent	Swanton Village Electric
Lukas	Poore	Norwich Public Utilities
Michael	Rampanelli	Village of Rockville Centre Electric
Benjamin (Ben)	Stilson	Power and Construction Group, Inc.
Jameson	Zajac	Norwich Public Utilities
Evan	Abate	Shrewsbury Electric Light & Cable Operations
Will	Ambach	Shrewsbury Electric Light & Cable Operations
Matthew	Beede	Middleton Electric Light Department
Derek	Cokonis	Littleton Electric Light & Water Departments
Trevor	Conroy	Marblehead Municipal Light Department
Ryan	Dame	Littleton Electric Light & Water Departments
Jesse	Doumanian	Groveland Municipal Light Department
Gavin	Duhamel	Littleton Electric Light & Water Departments
Joseph	Epstein	Mansfield Electric Department
William	Parente	Peabody Municipal Light Plant
John	Ragusa	Marblehead Municipal Light Department
Daniel	Robertson	Phoenix Communication, Inc.
Kyle	Shadd	Unitil
Ryan	Sherwin	Middleboro Gas & Electric Department
Ryan	Silva	Middleboro Gas & Electric Department
Timothy	Stanton	Reading Municipal Light Department
Justin	Vandal	Shrewsbury Electric
Troy	White	Unitil
Zachery	Wootton	Reading Municipal Light Department

35 Students

**2024 Apprentice Lineworker Program
Skills Assessment Rodeo
Student Roster**

Year 3

Logan	Abbott	Unitil
John	Abdou	Island Lighting and Power Systems Inc.
Luis	Bonilla	Littleton Electric Light & Water Departments
Dominic	Colella	Danvers Electric
Tyler	Cyr	Chicopee Electric Light
Joseph	Desiderio	Reading Municipal Light Department
Christopher	Desjeans	South Hadley Electric Light Department
Thomas	Donahue III	Paxton Municipal Light Department
Jared	Flagg	Groton Utilities
Jared	Freeman	Hingham Municipal Light
Timothy	Girard	Holyoke Gas & Electric Department
Stephen	Gustafson	Holden Municipal Light Department
Zachary	Ivory	Groton Utilities
Norman	Landano	Peabody Municipal Light Plant
Aaron	Manteau	New Hampshire Electric Cooperative
Chase	Miller	New Hampshire Electric Cooperative
Tyler	Miller	Power and Construction Group, Inc.
Ryan	Noftle	Reading Municipal Light Department
Doug	Ober	Hudson Light & Power
Liam	O'Brien	Holyoke Gas & Electric Department
Colton	Oswald	Power and Construction Group, Inc.
Randy	Popp	Reading Municipal Light Department
Ryan	Raftery	Middleton Electric Light
Matthew	Raymond	Phoenix Communication, Inc.
Zach	Robison	New Hampshire Electric Cooperative
Jonathan	Rodriguez	South Norwalk Electric & Water
Anthony	Rossi	Holden Municipal Light Department
Evan	Saia	Holyoke Gas & Electric Department
John	Smart	New Hampshire Electric Cooperative
Benjamin	Smith	Paxton Municipal Light Department
Stephen	St. Pierre	Danvers Electric
Austin	Tallman	New Hampshire Electric Cooperative
William	True	New Hampshire Electric Cooperative
Evan	Zimmer	Village of Rockville Centre Electric

34 Students

Year 4

Matthew	Atwell	Village of Rockville Centre Electric
Robert	Bednarsky	Westfield Gas & Electric
John	Bishop	Shrewsbury Electric Light & Cable Operations
Gary	Bisiniere	Westfield Gas & Electric
Nathan	Buzzell	Merrimac Municipal Light
Dennis	Bzduch	Power and Construction Group, Inc.
Erik	Cardoso	North Attleboro Electric Department
Ethan	Emert	Groton Utilities
Brian	Fitzgerald	Sterling Municipal Light Department
Phillip	Fustini	Groton Utilities
Graham	Gates	Princeton Municipal Light Department
Gianno	Grilla	Phoenix Communication, Inc.
Joe	Guillotte	Phoenix Communication, Inc.
Thomas	Hackett	Power and Construction Group, Inc.
Timothy	Hoch	Groton Utilities
Matthew	Hossenlopp	Power and Construction Group, Inc.
Benjamin	Ingemi	Mansfield Electric Department
Tim	June	Power and Construction Group, Inc.
William	Kotecki	Groton Utilities
Paul	Lakin	Woodsville Water & Light Department
Joseph	Laperchia	Georgetown Municipal Light Department
Maxwell	Lebras	Groton Utilities
Mike	Leriche	Morrisville Water & Light Department
Matt	McNamara	Concord Municipal Light Plant
Brian	Mercik	Chicopee Electric Light
Cody	Montross	Burlington Electric Department
Prescott	Neenan	Liberty Utilities
Mike	Nolan	Ipswich Municipal Light Department
Jeffrey	Proctor	Shrewsbury Electric Light & Cable Operations
Parker	Quint	Houlton Water Company
Val	Reopel	Chicopee Electric Light
Ryan	Sabourin	Burlington Electric Department
Derrick	Seibold	Holyoke Gas & Electric Department
Paul	Trudeau	Boylston Municipal Light Department
Jamie	Viglirolo	Belmont Light
Aaron	Way	Power and Construction Group, Inc.
Zack	Wilchenski	Power and Construction Group, Inc.
Robert	Wilson	Power and Construction Group, Inc.

38 Students

TRAINING TEAM



Anthony Calascibetta
Director of Safety & Training

Anthony is NEPPA's Director of Safety & Training. He has 40 years of Electrical experience and 25 years of Electric Utility experience. Starting out as a Lineworker, he moved to the Substation Division as a Lead Substation Technician.

He is proficient in relay testing, transformer testing, circuit breaker testing, and all aspects of wiring in overhead, underground, metering, and substations.

Anthony is an OSHA Authorized General Industry Trainer, and OSHA Authorized Construction Trainer and a Certified Utility Safety Professional (CUSP).



Colleen Del Signore
Education & Training Coordinator

Colleen joined NEPPA as part of the office staff in December of 2013. She has 20+ years of administrative experience, and has taken courses at Quinsigamond Community College and UMass Lowell. As the Education and Training Coordinator, Colleen handles scheduling training, managing grades and attendance, and record keeping. She is the go-to person for the Apprentice Lineworker Program, as well as the other training programs that NEPPA offers. Colleen has a son who is a licensed electrician and a daughter who just started high school.



Steve Socoby
Trainer

Steve has 50 years of hands-on experience in all facets of public power utility operations. His past roles, including as a Line Superintendent, have helped him gain expertise in supervision of crews, maintenance, new construction, reliability, and associated plant & substation responsibilities. He is a Certified Utility Safety Professional (CUSP) and a recognized expert in safety and OSHA compliance.

Recognized as an industry leader and expert, in 2001, Steve received the Distinguished Service Award from the Northeast Public Power Association and has been recognized by the Maine State Legislature for his previous 30 Years of Distinguished Service. Steve attended the University of Maine at Orono. In 2020, Steve was honored for his long-standing commitment to NEPPA and the industry by being awarded the organization's Person of the Year Award.

TRAINING TEAM (Continued)



Dan Flynn
Trainer

Dan Flynn has been a safety trainer with Northeast Public Power Association, since September 2018 after retiring from Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Dept with more than a 40-year career in public power. Dan is a Certified First Aid/CPR/AED Instructor. Dan started in the electric meter department in the 1970's and worked his way through the electric line department as a lineman/line foremen and his last position as the electric department superintendent. Some of Dan's responsibilities included construction, maintenance, and safety of the electric line division. Dan continues to maintain his 1B/2A Mass. hoisting license and a Mass. Class A Driving license.

Dan lives with his wife of 43 years, Alayne, and they have two adult children and three grandchildren. He says, "It is a privilege to continue to be involved with the public power industry in New England to give back any knowledge I've acquired over these many years."



Mike Pazzanese
Trainer

Mike joined NEPPA as part of the training team in April 2021. Mike is a Certified Utility Safety Professional (CUSP) with 41 years of experience in all aspects of electric and gas utility operations, as well as contractor management, employee health and safety, and utility technical training, particularly in underground distribution and cable splicing.

Mike holds both the OSHA 30-hour General Industry and 20-hour Leadership Certifications. Mike is also an Authorized OSHA Trainer-General Industry.

As a graduate of Bridgewater State University with a teaching degree, Mike's background in utility and 11 years of technical training experience strengthens NEPPA's capacity to provide top-tier training.



Ken Rollins
Trainer

Ken has been involved with the utility business for over 47 years, starting in the Danvers Water Dept. in the mid-seventies. He transferred to Danvers Electric Light in the mid-eighties going through his apprenticeship to become a journeyman lineman. In 1990, he was hired by Middleton Electric as a First Class Lineman and was promoted to Crew Leader, then Line Foreman and then became the Facilities Coordinator.

He has been involved with multiple Mutual Aid Storm related emergencies as a lineman and supervisor all over New England, Florida and the Virgin Islands. His knowledge and skills have greatly benefited the NEPPA team in NEPPA safety meetings as well as the NEPPA Apprentice program.



**STUDENT
SCHOLARSHIP
FUND**

University / Trade School Students:

- One Scholarship directed at students currently enrolled in a college or trade school program during 2024/2025 program year.

Graduating High School Seniors:

- One Scholarship directed at students who are seniors in high school during the 2024/2025 school year. Recipients should be enrolling in college or trade school program upon HS graduation.

Application Deadline March 28, 2025

- Winner announced May 2025
- Amount: \$500.00 per scholarship winner
- Application criteria: High School/University GPA, High School/University curriculum, extracurricular activities, short essay, community involvement.


Student must a resident or relative of a NEPPA utility (NEPPA family members encouraged to apply)



Visit neppa.org or contact NEPPA at scholarship@neppa.org or (978) 540-2200.


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