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**Village of Yellow Springs receives national achievement award**

**Seattle, Washington, June 20, 2023** — The Village of Yellow Springs, Ohio, received an American Public Power Association E.F. Scattergood System Achievement Award during the American Public Power Association’s National Conference in Seattle, Washington. The award honors APPA member systems that have enhanced the prestige of public power utilities through sustained achievement and customer service.

The Village of Yellow Springs operates with a four-person electric crew. The team set an ambitious goal to improve its system, limit outages, and improve outage response time. In the last five years, the Village replaced approximately 175 of 250 identified problem poles in-house and coordinated the remainder with contractors. The utility set up a yearly pole testing program that breaks the village into five sections, so each pole is tested every five years. This resulted in a failure rate of just three percent in 2022. The team also partnered with an engineering firm to identify all old cutouts and fuse sizes to ensure proper fuse coordination, which will in turn limit the impact from outages. Long-term residents have noted the dramatic shift in reliability in the wake of these efforts, saying they no longer enter storm season or the winter months with fear for the town’s grid. The utility also engages in numerous community outreach efforts, including its “touch-a-truck” events, which allow employees to engage with and educate the public on the importance and benefits of public power while also giving out coloring books and hard hats to children.

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*The American Public Power Association is the voice of not-for-profit, community-owned utilities that power 2,000 towns and cities nationwide. We represent public power before the federal government to protect the interests of the more than 49 million people that public power utilities serve, and the 96,000 people they employ. Our association advocates and advises on electricity policy, technology, trends, training, and operations. Our members strengthen their communities by providing superior service, engaging citizens, and instilling pride in community-owned power.*