

## Members encouraged to vote in the 2021 Chugach election

Voting in Chugach’s annual election is open with both electronic voting and paper ballots available to members through mid-May. In 2021, members will choose from three candidates running for one seat on the Chugach Board of Directors. There are also four proposed bylaw amendments on the ballot. Information on candidates and the bylaw proposals are available on the Chugach website.

If you’d like to vote electronically, you can add your email address to your account by contacting Member Services at 563-7366. Electronic voting closes at 4 pm on May 18. You can also vote on the Chugach website using the control number mailed on April 26. For those who requested a paper ballot, those are due by noon on May 14.

Chugach’s election contractor, BDO, can assist members who have not received the voting email

or wish to receive a paper ballot. Call (907) 646-7394 or (888) 729-4679.



**Members who vote in the Chugach election will be entered to win one free year of electricity (up to 10,000 kWh).**

### Virtual annual meeting set for May 18

Election results will be announced on May 18 beginning at 5:30 pm during the virtual annual meeting. Immediately following, there is a regular meeting of the board of directors to give updates from the Board Chair, the CEO, the Board Treasurer, and more. Sign up on the Chugach annual meeting page on the website. [www.chugachelectric.com](http://www.chugachelectric.com).

## Right Tree, Right Place

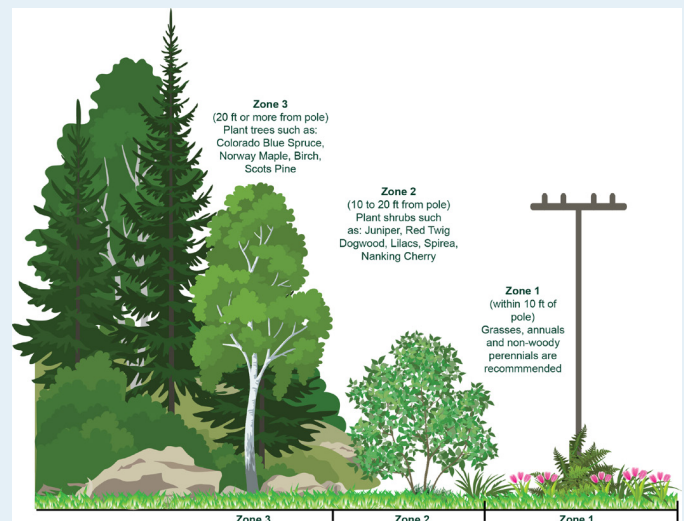
Planting trees and shrubs can provide energy savings in addition to enhancing the beauty and value of your home.

If you are thinking of planting, choose the appropriate tree or shrub to minimize conflicts between trees and utility lines. Planting in the utility easement can make it difficult for Chugach or other utilities to gain access and maintain their facilities. The result could mean your landscaping might need to be moved or trimmed.

Chugach is certified by the National Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree Line USA utility. Chugach works with an arborist who is available to help

members determine what type of plants and trees should be planted near utility rights of way.

Call Chugach at 762-7655 for more information.



## Know what's below. Call before you dig.

Whether you are a do-it-yourselfer or hire a professional, smart digging means always calling 811 before each project. {191331771}

Call 811 at least two business days or up to 10 days before you want to start digging. That means if you call 811 Tuesday morning, 811 member utilities will have your service marked by noon Thursday - just

in time for your weekend project.

Call 811 Monday through Friday 8am - 5pm (7am - 7pm during the summer) or submit an e-Ticket at [www.811ak.com](http://www.811ak.com).



## Simple ways to Firewise your home against wildfires

As we watch the snow melt and the days get longer, fire season is right around the corner. In Alaska, fire season officially starts on April 1; that's the date the Division of Forestry requires burn permits for burning activities on state, municipal and private lands. This includes debris burning, the use of burn barrels and burning off lawns.

Alaska has been experiencing earlier, longer and more intense fire seasons during the last 20 years. Five of the 11 largest fire seasons Alaska has recorded dating back to 1939 have occurred since 2004. In the past five years, Alaska has experienced two catastrophic fire events. Both occurred in the Mat-Su Valley. The 2015 Sockeye Fire in Willow, burned more than 50 homes. The 2019 McKinley Fire, about 15 miles north of the Sockeye Fire, also burned more than 50 homes.

Here are some simple Firewise tips from the Alaska Division of Forestry:

- Clear leaves, spruce needles and other debris from gutters, eaves, porches and decks.
- Remove dead vegetation from under your deck and within 10 feet of the house.
- Remove any flammable items stored underneath decks or porches.
- Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
- Remove flammable materials (firewood stacks, propane tanks, dry vegetation) within 30 feet of your home's foundation and outbuildings, including garages and sheds.
- Prune trees so the lowest branches are 6 to 10 feet from the ground.
- Keep your lawn hydrated and maintained.
- Don't let debris and lawn cuttings linger.
- Cover exterior attic vents with metal wire mesh no larger than 1/8 inch to prevent sparks from entering the home.

## In the community

### Supporting heart health

Team High Voltage was pleased to once again support the American Heart Association's Virtual Alaska Heart Run/Walk. Chugach's team raised nearly \$1,000 to support the work of the American Heart Association.



Of the 91,574 members eligible to vote in the Chugach election, 77,912 have an email on file and received their election materials electronically - saving hundred of trees.



### The Outlet

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5601 Electron Drive • P.O. Box 196300  
Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6300  
(907) 563-7494 or Toll free (800) 478-7494  
[www.chugachelectric.com](http://www.chugachelectric.com)

### Member number hide-n-seek

Find your member number (in brackets) in the Outlet and get a \$100 credit on your electric bill. Call Chugach's service center at 563-7366 to claim your prize.