







57th ANNUAL

Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival

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Heart of Business





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Mayor's Message



Jennifer Coughlin Mayor of Springwater Township

Welcome to the Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival!

Get ready to indulge in nature's sweetest gift at the Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival, nestled right here in Springwater Township! We're thrilled to welcome you to the sweetest festival of the season.

For over 50 years, this festival has been a go-to event for locals and visitors alike. Dive into our community, enjoy exciting entertainment, and of course, taste some of the best maple syrup you'll find in Canada.

A huge shoutout to our incredible volunteers who work hard year-round to make this festival a hit - your passion and dedication are truly inspiring.

Did you know – the funds raised at the festival return straight into the community, boosting support for local clubs and organizations across our Township.

Springwater Council and staff are overjoyed to see familiar faces and newcomers alike at this beloved event. By joining us year after year, not only do you get to enjoy the festival, but you also champion local growth and community spirit. To those visiting for the first time, we extend an especially warm welcome. We invite you to enjoy the sweetness of our maple syrup, as well as the heartwarming hospitality of Springwater. We promise it's an experience as sweet as our syrup!







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Dignitaries' Welcome

Welcome from our Parliamentary Officials



MP Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte

Doug Shipley

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2025 Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival, one of the great traditions in our region. I hope you will enjoy all the day has to offer!

I am grateful to represent the riding of Barrie—Springwater—Oro-Medonte as the Member of Parliament.

Whether you are a full time or seasonal resident or a visitor for the day, volunteers and organizers are so happy to host you here and share all the fun and excitement of the festival. From spirited competitions to local vendors with tasty maple-based wares this is a wonderful way to make lasting memories and perhaps build new traditions of your own.

While visiting, please take a moment to thank one of the many volunteers who dedicate so much time and effort to make this festival a success year after year. The Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival has been a community tradition for over five decades and it could not continue without the tireless dedication of great volunteers.

Look forward to seeing you there!



MPP Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte

Doug Downey

Welcome to the 57th annual Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival! The Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival is an opportunity for the great community of Elmvale, and the surrounding areas in Springwater Township, and across the province, to gather and celebrate what it means to be Canadian.

As MPP for Barrie – Springwater – Oro-Medonte, it is my immense pleasure to take part in this event once more. Despite my lack of success in the log-sawing contest, it is always great to visit this festival and catch up with our local maple syrup producers, volunteers and visitors who come to enjoy the tastes, sights and sounds of our maple syrup festival.

The Elmvale Maple Syrup festival is not just an opportunity for us to gather, but an opportunity to give back to this great community that we all know and love. Funds raised from the EMSF help to support our schools, music programs, library, arena and community hall projects, as well as the Girl Guides, Scouts, and many other projects that may not have adequate funding.

I look forward to celebrating the spirit of community in Elmvale with all of you today. As you enjoy the festival, please take time to thank all the volunteers, organizers, vendors, sponsors and partners. Without them, the Maple Syrup Festival would not be possible. Thank you and have a wonderful time!

Greetings from our Officials



County of Simcoe **Basil Clarke**Warden, Simcoe County



Greg Davidson

EMSF President

The Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival is one of Simcoe County's most enjoyable and anticipated events each year. This festival not only provides a fun and engaging experience for attendees but also plays a crucial role in raising awareness about our region's rich history and cultural heritage. It truly represents the essence of who we are as a community.

At the County of Simcoe, we recognize the invaluable contributions of our maple syrup producers. These dedicated farmers play a vital role in our agri-tourism industry, driving economic growth and fostering a deeper connection between visitors and our agricultural roots. As home to the largest municipal forest in Ontario, the County of Simcoe takes immense pride in the high-quality maple syrup and maple products produced here. These products are not only enjoyed locally but are also sold and cherished around the world.

Thank you to the tens of thousands of attendees who visited Elmvale this year. Your participation and enthusiasm help make this festival a resounding success, showcasing the best of what Simcoe County has to offer.

Welcome to the 57th Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival. This year we extend greetings to the many new businesses in the community. Our festival thrives because of our Producers, Vendors and Community Groups represented in over 200 booths. Their hearty spirit, regardless of weather, forms the backbone of this event.

The festival is a busy day with lots to enjoy and discover. Visit the Town Hall for an all day pancake breakfast and live entertainment. Gather at the Main Stage for music and the annual log sawing and pancake eating contests. Enjoy lunch and snacks with our Lionesses in the Springwater Room above the rink. Explore our village and browse all that our vendors and artists have to offer. Catch the school bus, east of the arena, for a tour of Lalonde's Sugar Bush.

This digest is your guide to the festival. Ask our volunteers in the Sugar Shack and throughout the grounds for more information and watch for live updates on Facebook.

Finally, thank you for being part of the day and acknowledging the experience, quality of service and teamwork that our volunteers deliver in bringing this festival to you.





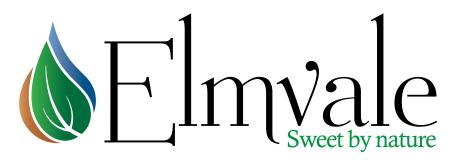
Mission Statement

The Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival is a fundraising event whose proceeds support projects which contribute to the physical, intellectual, cultural, emotional or spiritual well-being of our community.

Parking at the Festival

Springwater Township will be enforcing no parking along the west side of Amelia Street, the south side of Stone Street and the north side of William Street. The streets will be clearly marked by the Township as tow-away zones which will be strictly enforced

on Festival day. Special event parking lots throughout the village will be well marked. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to approach one of our volunteers.





Welcome to the Village of Elmvale

Discover all our treasures, the unique shops, cafes, restaurants and services, the historic setting, and all the events that Elmvale has to offer.

Help us to create the village we know we can become!

The Elmvale Business Improvement Area positions the community as a "village" destination for shopping, dining and culture. The BIA manages a number of programs and promotions to support its brand. Join us as we represent the business community's interests and create a vibrant downtown Elmvale.

www.elmvalebia.ca / info@elmvalebia.ca www.Facebook.com/ElmvaleBIA



The BIA would like to congratulate the Elmvale Maple Syrup Committee for another fabulous event!!







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Serving Breakfast 8am-3pm, Festival Day

The first place on your agenda when you arrive at the festival should be our pancake house. There's no better way to start off the day than with a plateful of sizzling sausages, a stack of syrup-soaked pancakes and a hot or cold beverage.

As always, we will be presenting local musical entertainment from the likes of Even Steven and Louis Lefaive

Don't forget to pick up your festival information guide for everything you need to know about The Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival.



Variety Night Show

Musical directors Jesse Muldoon and Shelley Charlebois present a musical extravaganza. All door ticket sales support the music program.

Friday, April 25th, 2025 in the EDHS Gym Doors open at 6:30pm

Prior to and during the concert, the EDHS Youth Exchange Group will be hosting a Silent Auction. All funds in support of hosting our O'Chiese First Nation, Alberta twins





Festival Entertainment

Presented by Al Beardsall & Dan Clement

10:00 a.m.

Local Talent

11:00 a.m.

EDHS All Stars with Jesse Muldoon

12 noon

Opening Ceremony / Introduction of dignitaries Log-sawing contest Firefighters' & Community Challenge Pancake-eating contests

1:30 p.m., 2:30 p.m. & 3:30 p.m. Local Talent

*Please note: subject to change







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and guests will entertain
throughout the day





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So what does that mean? Well, in this business it means we have to wait for Mother Nature to decide when it is time for making maple syrup. She decides when to give us the perfect weather conditions to allow the trees to release their sap for gathering. We need cold nights and sunny days and with the freezing and thawing temperatures typically happening in March of each year, sometimes she surprises us with these conditions earlier than we expect.

Last year she kept us on our toes as the temperatures were ideal towards the end of February. We definitely didn't expect that and we were scrambling to get our trees tapped for the bounty that we consider part of our livelihood, aside from the lumber that

we sell. We did manage to get tapped in time and had a wonderful crop for the year. We usually make 1000 + gallons of syrup each spring, so we do have products year round. For all those who think they can only get our delicious maple syrup in the spring, it is always available at our location: 1355, Flos Rd 8 East, Elmvale. We also offer a variety of maple syrup based treats.

It is truly a family affair, so be sure to stop by our booth at the Maple Syrup Festival, and hop on the schoolbus near the arena to visit our operation and see how syrup is made. We'll be happy to show you around.

We hope you enjoy your day at the festival and tell all your friends.

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Elmvale Co-operative Nursery School



The Elmvale Cooperative Nursery School (ECNS) has been serving the community for over 40 years. Its core mission is to create an environment that fosters the developmental and social needs of preschool children, while offering a wide range of activities and experiences to prepare students for kindergarten.

ECNS is licensed to enroll up to 16 preschoolers per day, maintaining an 8:1 student-to-teacher ratio.

Classes are held in the upper level of St. John's United Church, a fully licensed and regularly inspected facility.

The school year begins on the first Monday after Labour Day and runs until the third week of June. ECNS offers two-day-a-week programs, either Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Children must be at least 30 months old on their first day.

The school year is filled with engaging learning opportunities, creative activities, and plenty of fun!

For more information, please contact us:

Call or Text: (705) 790-4339

Email: elmvalenurseryschool@gmail.com



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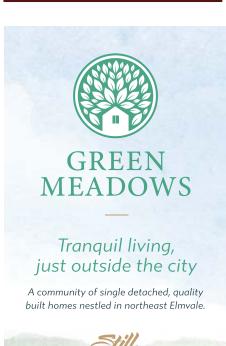
163rd Annual Elmvale Fall Fair

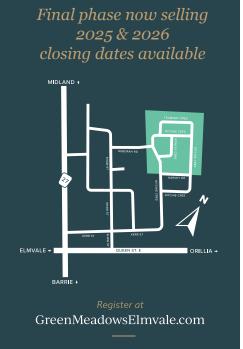
Oct. 9th, 10th & 11th 2025 Thanksgiving Weekend

Thank you for continuing to showcase our wonderful community

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Celebrate Maple Season

Maple Weekend 2025, April 5th & 6th, 2025

Maple syrup season is off to a more traditional start this year. Cold and snowy weather during January and February bodes well for a slow transition to warmer weather, making for a good syrup season. Producers are excited to welcome visitors and showcase the 2025 crop during the annual Maple Weekend, April 5 and 6, 2025.

Hosted by the Ontario Maple Syrup Producers' Association (OMSPA), Maple Weekend is a fun, free, two-day, family-friendly event that celebrates Ontario's maple heritage and invites visitors to head out to visit the sugar bush and savour the flavours of spring.

"Spring is the most exciting time of the year for maple syrup producers, especially when a cold winter offers the promise of a long season," said Randal Goodfellow, OMSPA Chair. "Maple syrup producers across the province are looking forward to opening up their sugar bush for visitors and inviting them to join in the celebration of the sweetest time of the year."

This year marks the 9th annual Maple Weekend, and visitors can expect to experience the best of maple season at participating sugar bushes across the province. The event features two full days of activities and specials, and will run from $10 \, a.m.$ to $4 \, p.m.$ both days. Visitors can expect to sample maple syrup, get out on the trails in a working sugar bush, eat maple taffy, get an inside peek into how maple syrup is produced and stock up on this year's crop of maple syrup.

Launched in 2015 as a trial and across the province in 2016, Maple Weekend has been a tremendous success for both producers and visitors. Maple Weekend is a past nominee for Destination Ontario's Tourism Event of the Year, and draws roughly 20,000 visitors annually to rural sugar bushes across the province.

In 2025, there will be 75 producers taking part in Maple Weekend, with participants from the following OMSPA districts: Algoma, Algonquin & District, Eastern, Grey-Bruce & District, Haliburton-Kawartha, Lanark & District, Ottawa Valley, Quinte & District, Simcoe & District, Southwestern, and Waterloo-Wellington.

Visit www.mapleweekend.ca for more details about specials and activities for visitors at the 75 locations across the province, and a list of participating maple syrup producers.

About OMSPA • As the official voice of sugar makers in the province, OMSPA represents approximately 600 maple syrup producers from across the province that are committed to producing a high-quality product for consumers to enjoy. Members are involved with a wide range of activities organized at the provincial level or through one of the 11 local chapters located across the maple producing areas of Ontario



For more information, contact:

John Williams Executive Director

admin@ontariomaple.com 613-258-2294

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Logging Up Victories

Our annual log-sawing contest takes place on our main stage shortly after noon on festival day. Local dignitaries and politicians from nearby municipalities pair up to test their sawing skills. Many are experienced at this, while some are here for the first time.

The pine log, donated by Robert Ritchie Forest Products, is set up on stage and referee Doug Kirton hands over his 52" crosscut saw, which has been oiled and sharpened to produce the best result possible.

Our official timer has his stopwatch ready and after a brief practice run, the order to 'go' is given and the contestants work in unison to remove a section of the log in the shortest time. It is much harder than it looks, and anticipating your partner's moves is definitely an asset.

We have two divisions; Open and Ladies'. Our 2024 open division winners were the Penetanguishene team of Mayor Doug Rawson and Deputy Mayor Dan LaRose. The winners of the ladies' division were Karen Jamieson and Leslie French.

The winning teams are rewarded with bottles of delicious maple syrup, having their names added to our trophy, plus the bragging rights until next year.

Be sure to come over to the main stage in the arena grounds and cheer on your favourite contestants.





WELCOME TO OUR

57TH ANNUAL MAPLE SYRUP FESTIVAL



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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The future of the festival depends on YOU!

If you love your community and want to see its traditions continue, we ask that you consider volunteering with the Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival Committee.

Help is needed in all areas. If interested, please contact burgleri1953@gmail.com or message us on our Facebook page.



www.emsf.ca

Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival









Township

(from Toronto via 400 to Barrie)

Numbered Events are shown on the Festival Map

All prices below include HST

1 Variety Night & Silent Auction

Friday April 25th, 6:30-9:00 p.m Elmvale District High School Adults: \$5.00 / Seniors & Students: \$4.00 All proceeds go to EDHS

2 The Royal Canadian Legion

Elmvale Branch 262 Open House: Sat. 12:00 noon-1:00 am Live Entertainment from 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

3 Sugarbush Tour Bus

Bus to FREE Sugarbush Tours loading in the Arena grounds



4 Community Hall

Pancake Breakfast Pancakes, Maple Syrup, Sausages & Beverages: \$10.00 Children under 12: \$5.00

9:00 a.m on: Various artists Entertainment runs all day

Main Stage

(10:00 am - 4:00 pm) Opening Ceremonies at noon Contests and Musical Entertainment

6 SugarShack Info Booth

Festival Guide & Ballot Box Questions answered

Library

Book Sale & Children's Craft Demonstrations Washrooms

8 The Arena

(8:00 am - 5:00 pm) Free Admission | Arts & Crafts (main floor) Lunches (upstairs, elevator available)

Church Chili Luncheon

(11:00 am-2:00 pm) Adults - \$10 Children 4-12yrs - \$5 3vrs and under - free

Where Is **Amber?**

Look for our mascot, hidden on one of the digest pages, and when you find her, fill out a ballot at the Sugar Shack at the arena gates, stating the page number, exact location and a phone number at which we can reach you.

We will draw a ballot at 1:00pm and the lucky winner will receive a litre of Lalonde's Amber syrup.

You must answer your phone; we won't leave a voicemail. We'll move to the next ballot if there is no answer.









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The Springwater Township Public Library



The Elmvale branch of the Springwater Township Public Library (STPL) is located on the corner of Queen Street West and Maria Street, right beside the Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival. We are open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the Saturday of the Festival so please come visit us.

The Friends of the Springwater Library is hosting our annual Amazing Book Sale with proceeds going to the Library's programming needs. The Book Sale is located downstairs in the McGuire Room and has both adult and children's titles, puzzles and DVDs. Prices per title are not set but are by donation to the Friends group.

If you are a Friends member, you get VIP access to the book sale the afternoon before. It is very easy to become a member of the Friends and show your support for STPL, the application is on the library's website www.springwaterlibrary.ca and at the library branches. The Friends website is www. friendsofspringwaterpubliclibrary.ca and be sure to sign up for their newsletter. If you are looking to donate items for the sale, we kindly ask that they be within 5 years of publication date, be in good condition, and we do not take magazines, textbooks, or Readers Digest type items.

There are three branches that make up Springwater Township Public Library, the others are located in Midhurst and Minesing. We have a Reciprocal Agreement with several other libraries in Simcoe County. These are: Essa, Clearview, Penetanguishene, Tay, Severn, and Ramara. If you have a library card in good standing, you may ask for your card at those libraries.

All items borrowed from a Reciprocal library must be returned there. Tiny residents may also get a library card from us. Tiny residents may only chose one library from Midland, Springwater, Penetanguishene and Wasaga Beach.

If you have pictures from previous Maple Syrup Festivals, please allow us to make a copy to add to our Local History Database. We accept pictures of historic events from all over Springwater Township.

The Maple Syrup Festival brings us all together to celebrate what makes Elmvale unique. Come in on Festival day and socialize with us! Thank you Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival for all that you do for the community.



ADULT DAY PROGRAMS

Elmvale & Penetanguishene

Program offers daily activities: crafts, group exercises, baking, gardening, sing-songs, games and more. Bathing program available and lunch provided.

For program information, contact:

705-549-6277 tracy.hill@simcoe.ca

The Adult Day Program is funded in part by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care



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Firefighters' & Community Challenge

This will be our 24th annual Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival pancake eating contest.

There are 2 divisions in this world renowned competition: Firefighters' Challenge and the Community Challenge, which is sponsored by Will Marshall Insurance.

Six local firefighters will compete in their division, with firefighter James Doan being heavy favourite to win this division once again. He was our winner in 2024. Maybe someone can beat him THIS year?

It will also be our 4th year with a separate division in which six community groups will participate. We are confident it will be another exciting event.

There are specific rules which have to be followed; participants need to consume five large pancakes covered with maple syrup supplied by Lalonde's Maple Syrup, in the fastest time possible. Water is provided, due to the danger of choking and everything has to stay down. The first person to finish and stand up is the winner.

This event would not be successful without the support of the Elmvale Firefighters and our sponsors. Watch for this main attraction on the big stage following the Log Sawing Contest.





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Maple Syrup Bars

If you love butter tarts, then you will LOVE this scrumptious dessert. Maple plus butter tarts are combined to create these sweet and delicious squares. For an added treat, serve warm with Chapman's Maple Crunch ice cream • Oh Canada!!



Ingredients:

Base

- ½ cup salted butter softened
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- 1 cup all-purpose flour

Topping:

- 1 cup maple syrup
- ¾ cup brown sugar
- ½ cup walnuts or pecans chopped
- ¼ cup salted butter
- 2 large eggs
- 2 tbsp all-purpose flour
- pinch salt

Nutritional Information (per bar)

Calories: 301 | Total fat: 15g | Saturated: 8g Trans: 0.5g | Cholesterol: 57mg | Sugar: 28g Carbohydrates: 39g | Fibre: 0.6g Sodium: 43mg | Protein: 3g

Base Preparation:

Preheat oven to 350°F. Combine butter, brown sugar and flour and stir until the mixture is crumbly. Press mixture into an 8 inch greased baking pan. Bake for 10 minutes. Remove and set aside.

Topping

In a saucepan, combine the maple syrup, brown sugar and walnuts and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and cook over medium-low heat for 5 minutes. Remove from heat, add butter and stir until melted.

In a bowl, beat the eggs with the flour and salt. Add egg mixture to maple syrup mixture and stir to combine. Pour over the base and bake for another 25 to 30 minutes, or until set. Cool completely before cutting.

Servings 12 | Prep time 15 minutes

Cooking time 45 minutes | Total time 1 hour

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Springwater Sports Heritage 2025

Springwater Sports Heritage congratulates the Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival and its many volunteers. This remarkable event is a testament to the dedication and hard work of countless individuals who have contributed their time and energy over the years. From organizing and setting up the event to providing warm hospitality to visitors, these volunteers have truly embodied the spirit of community.

The Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival has long been a cherished tradition in our region, celebrating not only the sweetness of maple syrup but also the rich cultural heritage of our community. It has provided a platform for local artisans, musicians, and food vendors to showcase their talents, fostering a sense of pride and unity among residents and visitors alike.

In addition to its cultural impact, the Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival has also played a vital role in financially supporting various groups and associations within the community. Over the years, funds raised through the festival have been generously donated to make a tangible difference in the lives of many residents and community groups. This unwavering commitment to giving back underscores the Festival's dedication to nurturing and strengthening the community.

Springwater Sports Heritage is very pleased to share and support local heritage with the Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival. The Festival has and continues to contribute to the growth and character of the community. To be surrounded by the culture of like-minded individuals who contribute and share so much is comforting and reassuring.

The Festival, and its many supporters, provide a guiding example within the community for others to aspire to. Springwater Sports Heritage is honoured and proud to be recognized by the Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival.

As we reflect on the past successes, we are reminded of the countless memories made, friendships formed, and the enduring legacy of the festival. We look forward to many more years of celebrating this wonderful event and the incredible volunteers who make it all possible.



Springwater Sports Heritage's next major undertaking is the creation of a Video Wall, interactive Kiosks and memorabilia Display Cabinets in the future Springwater Township Community Hub. The existing "Virtual" Springwater Sports Heritage will in the near future have a physical "Bricks & Mortar" component for all to enjoy and be inspired by.



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From handmade jewelry to homemade preserves, baking and bath products; from homemade clothing to natural foods, bird houses and metal creations, the Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival is sure to have a vendor that will catch your eye. Some have been returning for years, others are here for the first time. We also have a great selection of Maple Syrup Producers to tempt you with their delicious maple syrup products, so be sure to check them out. Enjoy your time at the festival!

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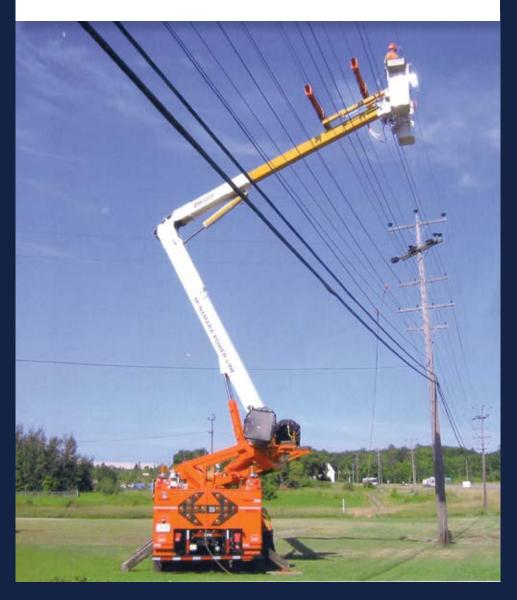


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