Annual Pole Top and Bucket Truck Rescue Training Held

With blue skies above, it was a perfect day for New Enterprise REC's crews to buckle on fall-restraint equipment belts, dig into utility poles and begin their annual pole top rescue exercises.

As an OSHA mandated safety training requirement, the course is designed to evaluate each lineman on their ability to properly rescue an injured and/or stranded lineman.

Each lineman must balance their skills with safety, climb a pole and rescue a 185-pound training mannequin. The lineman must then secure the mannequin using ropes and pulleys and safely deliver them back to the ground.

Linemen also practice various techniques of rescuing a person using the bucket truck.

In a perfect world, this is one skill that you hope a lineman never needs to use. But if they do, the training is an opportunity for the linemen to prepare and hone their skills if the need should ever arise.

During the training, no electricity is running through the lines. Attention to detail remains key and the linemen are evaluated as if every aspect of the training were real with a focus on the safe and efficient methods with which the rescue is accomplished.

New Enterprise REC continuously places safety first.