



For Pam Bonrud, tuna noodle casserole is more than just a dish.

Pam's mom made it frequently when Pam was growing up in Pierre, South Dakota.

"We're Catholic, so particularly during Lent, it was one that mom would make a lot on Fridays," Pam said. "It's the memories of our family. It's comfort food."

Pam joined NorthWestern Energy 17 years ago. She was initially hired as director of regulatory affairs. A few months later, her position expanded to become director of government and regulatory affairs. She's been in that role ever since.

"This is the longest I've stayed anywhere in my career," Pam said. "A lot of it is because I really enjoy what I do. I love the challenges of it."

Pam works with communities in South Dakota and Nebraska. She also works with legislators and other government officials to offer input about policies that are good for the residents in the states.

"A lot of my responsibility is building good relationships with regulators, the commissioners, their staff, and building good relationships with our legislators, state leaders and our local community leaders as well," Pam said. "I try to be a good representative of our company and build trust with those individuals."

Pam loves that her job is constantly changing and bringing new challenges. She also loves the camaraderie she has with her coworkers, and how everyone in the company works together.

"We try to work together as a team to accomplish good things for our customers, communities and shareholders," she said.



Mom's Tuna Noodle Casserole

INGREDIENTS

- 1 package egg noodles – wide
- 1 can cream of celery or cream of chicken soup
- 1 15 oz. can peas
- 1 package tuna or 1-2 cans water-packed tuna
- 1 cup Velveeta cheese
- Milk
- Potato chips

DIRECTIONS

- 1 Boil noodles to your taste.
- 2 Place cooked noodles into a casserole dish.
- 3 Add cream of celery soup, tuna, peas and chunks of Velveeta cheese. Mix. You may need to add some milk to help with mixing and consistency.
- 4 Top with crushed potato chips.
- 5 Bake at 350 degrees for 45-60 minutes to heat through.

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We are proud of the diversity in the communities we serve. To better serve the needs of some of our customers, we translate important customer information into two languages: Spanish and Karenic.

Estamos orgullosos de la diversidad en las comunidades que servimos. Para satisfacer mejor las necesidades de algunos de nuestros clientes, traducimos información importante del cliente a dos idiomas: español y karenic.

ပညာရေးအဖွဲ့အစည်းများသည် ကျွန်ုပ်တို့၏ ကုမ္ပဏီကို အားပေးဆောင်ရွက်ပေးကြသည်။ ကျွန်ုပ်တို့၏ ကုမ္ပဏီကို အားပေးဆောင်ရွက်ပေးကြသူများကို အထူးဂုဏ်ထူးဆောင်ရွက်ပေးမည်။
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In this issue: Hydro safety | Pipeline safety | Toxic algae
 Bright magazine | Tuna noodle casserole recipe



Bright ideas to save

▼ \$80

Pull the plug on your old, extra fridge and save up to \$80 a year.

On average, an old refrigerator uses about 35% more energy than an energy-efficient model.



Stay safe while recreating near hydro facilities

Be Dam Safe



Stop: Take time to read the safety signs around dams and waterways.



Look: Watch for increased water velocity or water rising over previously exposed rocks or brush.



Listen: Listen for warning sirens that signal when the dam spill gates open.

Boating in a reservoir

Water levels can fluctuate rapidly near dams. Never take your boat past restrictive cables or warning signs. Depending on maintenance schedules and periods of high river flow, boat restraining systems upriver of a dam may not be in place. Never boat alone.

Fishing below a dam

If you fish from a boat below a dam, always wear your life jacket and leave your engine running. The water below a dam can boil up and trap or capsize a boat. Anchoring below dams is dangerous and should never be done. Never fish alone.

Wading

While wading, always wear your life jacket and use a walking stick in river channels. Never wade or swim alone.

If caught in the water or swept off your feet:

- Stay calm, lie on your back and don't try to stand up.
- Drop any items that weigh you down.
- Keep feet up and pointed downstream to avoid hitting rocks and entrapments.
- Go with the current and move diagonally across the current until you reach the shore.
- Roll onto dry land to drain boots or waders. Don't stand until the water is out of waders.
- If trapped on an island, signal for help. Don't risk crossing the river.



Scan this QR code to learn more about our hydro operations.

Pipeline safety

Pipeline markers

Markers, placed at all public road and railroad crossings, show the approximate location of pipelines and identify the companies that operate them. These markers indicate the pipeline content, the name of the pipeline operator and the operator's emergency phone number.

Even if the pipeline is marked, you must call 811 to have utility lines marked before digging. The pipeline may not follow a straight course between markers. Call 811 at least two business days before beginning any digging project.

Pipeline monitoring

As a pipeline operator, we monitor the status of our pipelines seven days a week, 24 hours a day to ensure they are safe and secure. We use computers, alarms, meters and satellite technology to control and check our pipelines. The monitoring systems detect changes in pressure and flow and can activate warnings and safeguards if a leak is detected.

HCA and IMPs

Federal pipeline safety regulations use the concept of High Consequence Areas, or HCAs, to identify specific locations and areas where an accidental release of natural gas could have the most significant adverse consequences. Once an HCA has been identified, operators devote additional focus to ensure the integrity of pipelines in that area. We have in place an Integrity Management Program, or IMP, that defines the steps and timelines for identifying HCAs, assessing the integrity of the pipelines and taking aggressive steps to mitigate the risks to people and property near HCAs.

Pipeline purpose and reliability

Pipelines are the safest way to transport energy products, including natural gas, crude oil and other fuels. The U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) regulates pipelines with the help of state partners. According to government and industry statistics, the most common cause of pipeline incidents is improper or unauthorized digging near a pipeline, which is why it's important to call 811 at least two business days before any digging project. Pipeline operators carefully build, maintain and monitor the integrity and security of their lines.

Stay away from algae

While most algae is not toxic, Montana does see toxic algae blooms on occasion. Blue-green algae blooms can occur anytime from May through October, but are most common during hottest summer months, according to the Montana Department of Health and Human Services.

Toxic blue-green algae can occur throughout Montana in any standing body of water that is exposed to the sun, including lakes, reservoirs and stock ponds. Certain conditions can lead to an algae bloom, including high levels of nutrients and warm water temperatures. If you see blue-green algae, which can look like pea soup or green latex paint, stay out of the water. Don't allow pets to drink the water or children to play in it. If you do enter the water, rinse off as soon as possible with fresh water.

If you encounter an algae bloom, report it online at hab.mt.gov or call (888) 849-2938.

Read the latest issue of Bright magazine



The People issue of Bright magazine is now available. Our ability to fulfill our mission and serve our customers depends on employing the best workers. Behind every one of our employees and retirees is a story, and our latest issue of Bright tells those stories.

In the magazine, you'll read about a Butte employee who carries on a family tradition by dressing up as our mascot, Louie the Lightning Bug. You'll also find a story about a Lewistown ground worker who plays in a band and earned a gold record when one of his songs became a TikTok hit. The stories in this magazine are just a few examples of the incredible people who work at NorthWestern.

Read the magazine or subscribe for free at NorthWesternEnergy.com/Bright.