

# McLeod Cooperative Power NEWS

September 2015

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Official publication of



## Meter replacement project about 50% complete

**R**eplacement of electric meters throughout the Cooperative's service area is about 50% complete. By the time you are reading this paper, more than half of the 8,600 meters will have been exchanged. The map shows in yellow those townships where single-phase meter replacements were complete as of August 25. You can see that considerably more than 50% of the geographic area has been completed.

McLeod Co-op Power is upgrading its electric system. We are investing in new equipment, including new meters, that will help us operate more efficiently, improve reliability, and serve you better.

Chapman Metering has been hired to exchange member's old meters with new two-way meters. You may see their white van in your neighborhood when they are installing in your area. When they come to exchange your meter, they will knock on the door to let you know why they are at your residence. The majority of members will not experience any interruption in their power. Some members may experience an outage lasting usually less than one minute, which will require resetting digital clocks. The installer will leave a door hanger at your home to let you know your meter was exchanged.

We apologize to members for not being able to notify you in advance of the specific day your meter will be exchanged.

We do not have the additional staff required to coordinate the installer's route and make daily calls to members (many which no longer have land lines and have not provided us with their cell phone contact information). Notifying all members would be a difficult, if not impossible, task.

We are discovering that this upgrade will definitely help us provide improved service to our members.



Area in yellow shows townships that are mostly completed with the meter upgrade, as of August 25. Sibley, Renville and southern McLeod Counties are completed. Carver and northern McLeod Counties will be completed in the next six months.



## Community Solar: Only 11 panels still available for subscription

**A**ny MCPA member who would like to receive a monthly credit on their electric bill from the energy produced by a panel in the Co-op's Community Solar array, may call the Co-op to purchase a share of the solar production. Members will receive a credit for their share of the kWh produced by the solar array each month for 20 years. It is an easy way to invest in solar production and reduce future electric bills. Since the Co-op maintains the array, members have no maintenance hassles.

Most participating members in the community solar project are on the Single-phase Farm & General Service Rate. Each of these members received a credit of \$7.49 for 64 kWh of production for June and \$8.55 for 60 kWh of production for July for each solar panel they have subscribed to. Some members purchased a subscription to multiple panels, giving them a larger total monthly credit.

Call the Co-op at 1-800-494-6272 or go to our website at [www.mcleodcoop.com](http://www.mcleodcoop.com) to get a solar agreement form.

## Have something to sell?

Consider placing a classified ad in the MCPA newsletter. Ads are free to members. This is a benefit of membership.

You can sell a car, camper, farm machinery or stuff you are cleaning out of your attic. Check out the details inside this newsletter. Look for the ad coupon. Certain restrictions apply so please read the details.

## July Outage Summary

**D**uring July there were 64 outages reported on the Cooperative's system. A tornado, winds, trees hanging over or into power lines, and lightning caused the most outages in July. However, a transmission line outage during the July 17-18 storms put the most members in the dark by knocking out power supply to both the New Germany and Hollywood substations. This four hour power outage left almost 1,300 MCPA members without power. Even when power was restored to the substations, a few hundred members remained in the dark for several hours until repairs could be made to the distribution system following the tornado and storms.

The second largest outage occurred on July 20 about 4:43 AM due to an equipment failure. It caused an outage for more than 75 members north of Winthrop for two hours.

Most outages affect only one or two members. They are frequently caused by small animals, trees in the line, equipment failure or motor vehicle/machinery accidents. Larger outages affecting hundreds of members at a time are usually caused by transmission outages, storms, equipment failure to substation equipment or accidents.

Restoration time on weekend and evening outages, when line crews are called out from home, usually take a little longer to get back on than outages when crews are already out working on the project.

**A transmission line outage knocked out power to New Germany and Hollywood Substations again**  
An Xcel Energy transmission line was damaged between Watertown and Delano, interrupting power to both MCPA substations, as well as other utilities fed by the transmission line, on the windy afternoon of Saturday, August 22.

## Manager's Message — by Carrie L. Buckley, General Manager



### Legislative changes affecting your Cooperative

**G**lorious summer — what a wonderful introduction this summer has been to this new Minnesota resident! My husband and I continue to marvel how easy it is to take long walks in the late evening and never don a jacket or sweatshirt. Even though summer may be waning, we look forward to the legendary beautiful colors anticipated this coming fall.

#### Minnesota Legislative session

In this month's newsletter I summarize several of the issues that passed this year's legislative session that we felt were important to the member-owners of electric cooperatives across Minnesota. In partnership with the Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA), electric cooperatives worked together to identify top legislative priorities so we could speak with one powerful, cooperative voice to our local legislators.

This year's Transportation Bill included a provision that will improve the safety of our line workers when they are parked on the side of the road. Adding utility vehicles to the "move over" list is another extremely important element to making sure our line workers come home safely to their families every night.

Cooperatives are now eligible for the 25 percent state match for FEMA funds during a federally declared disaster. Previously, electric cooperatives were able to access only 75 percent provided by federal funds.

Net metering changes included the ability to charge a reasonable fee to recover a portion of the costs of serving net-metered facilities. Working through MREA, electric co-ops are developing a fee formula based on our individual cost of service studies to ensure it is reasonable, fair, and based on our costs to serve. Current net metering facilities will not be affected by these changes and will only apply to new facilities that are added after July 1. Please stay tuned to learn more about these changes.

DNR crossing fees were the last item that cooperatives were able to address during this year's extended session. In the past, the DNR assessed application fees of up to \$5,000 for public land and water crossings before they charged additional licensing fees. The new language eliminated the crossing fees but maintained the licensing fees.

Electric cooperatives around the state considered this to be a very successful legislative session for passing provisions important to us. On behalf of the cooperative, I would like to thank all of our very supportive and helpful legislative representatives. A special thank you is extended to Representative Dean Urdahl for his tireless efforts on achieving the FEMA legislation changes.



### Going south for the winter

Please notify the Cooperative if you are heading south for the winter.

Although the Turtle will send us your meter reading, we still need to know what payment arrangements you prefer.

#### Options are:

- You can pay in advance.
- You can sign up for auto pay and have the payment automatically deducted from your checking or savings account.
- You can call us with a credit card payment.
- Have the post office forward your mail.

**Be sure to make arrangements before you leave by calling 1-800-494-6272.**

### Board of Directors

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### McLeod Cooperative Power News

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1231 Ford Ave. North, Glencoe, MN 55336-0070

Editor: Sue Pawelk  
General Manager: Carrie L. Buckley

The McLeod Cooperative Power News is the official member publication of McLeod Coop Power Association and focuses on our members, programs and events.

All member story ideas and comments are welcome.  
Send to Sue Pawelk at the address shown.

#### Office Hours:

Monday - Friday  
7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Phone: 320-864-3148**  
**1-800-494-6272**

**24-hour outage: 1-800-927-5685**

**Fax: 320-864-4850**

**Web site: www.mcleodcoop.com**

Gopher State One Call 811 or 1-800-252-1166

McLeod Cooperative Power Association is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## It is the perfect time to join the Hot Water Storage Program

**Lower your monthly bill and get a \$300 rebate**

The Co-op has stocked up on large capacity water heaters. Manufacturers are no longer allowed to produce electric water heaters over 55 gallons unless they have special grid-enabled controls. These future water heaters will be more expensive. Now is the time to purchase a Marathon water heater for the storage program from our remaining inventory.

**Are you considering a switch to the storage water heating program?** Now may be a good time to take action. The Co-op has water heaters in stock. There is a \$300 rebate currently available when installing a new high-efficiency, large water heater on the ETS (electric thermal storage) water heating program. If you have been wondering how you can reduce your monthly electric bill, the Water Storage Program (with or without the Cycled Air Conditioning Program) can save you hundreds of dollars a year. Almost 1,300 members participate in the program. The Co-op has a satisfaction guarantee on the program.

Call the Co-op's energy experts today to help you select the proper size tank for your family. Participation in the ETS water heating program is one of the best ways to significantly lower your electric bill every month of the year.



## September is National Preparedness Month

One of the best ways to stay one step ahead of storms, power outages and other emergencies is to plan ahead with an emergency preparedness kit.

The exact contents of your emergency kit may vary according to the dangers and weather most relevant to your region, but [www.Ready.gov](http://www.Ready.gov) recommends that every emergency kit contain these basic items:

- Water — one gallon of water per person, per day, for at least three days for drinking and sanitation
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio, and a NOAA weather radio and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Manual can opener for food
- Local maps
- Cellphone with chargers, inverter or solar charger

Just as important as knowing how to prepare is knowing what to do during and immediately after an emergency. Some tips to keep in mind should a severe storm or flooding occur, include:

- Do not step into a flooded basement or room if the water is covering electrical outlets, appliances or cords.
- Never attempt to turn off power at the breaker box or touch an electrical appliance if you are wet or standing in water. Shut off power at the pole if you have a service disconnect or contact the cooperative to shut off power at the meter.
- If an electrical appliance has been in contact with water, have a professional check it out before it is used. It may need to be repaired or replaced.
- If power lines are on the ground, stay far away and warn others to stay away. Contact the local electric utility because the lines could still be live.
- If driving, never get out of the car if there is a downed power line, and never drive over one.

For more safety tips, visit [www.safelectricity.org](http://www.safelectricity.org)

## Pick up the phone before you pick up the shovel



It is very important that consumers understand how the Gopher State One Call system works. Whether you plan to dig in post holes for a deck or flagpole, plant a tree, or trench in electric lines to a garage or outdoor appliance, you need to call Gopher State One Call 48 hours before you plan to dig (excluding weekends and holidays).

The Gopher State One Call system is designed to notify utilities which might have underground facilities in the area where digging is planned. The utilities then mark any lines they have in the immediate area. **It is the homeowner's responsibility to locate or hire someone to locate their own personal underground facilities such as underground electric wires between the meter and the house, the meter or house and other buildings, buried gas lines for propane tanks, lamps, or pool heaters, water lines, sewer lines, telephone lines, sprinkler systems, invisible fences, etc. The Cooperative does not locate buried wires that are**

**the homeowner's responsibility. You should hire a licensed electrician or cable locating company to mark your personal lines. A list of private locators is available on the [www.gopherstateonecall.org](http://www.gopherstateonecall.org) site.**

First, you need to call Gopher State One Call two business days before you plan to start digging. You call either "811" or 1-800-252-1166. Be prepared with the following information:

- Your name, home phone # and work/cell phone #.
- When do you plan to begin work?
- How many days will digging take?
- Type of work you will be doing?
- County and city/township where work will be done?
- Address and nearest cross streets or township range/section where work will be done?
- Where will you be digging on the property?
- Will any digging be done in road right-of-way?

Gopher State One Call will call any utilities with facilities in the area you plan to dig. They will not notify anyone regarding your personal buried facilities. That is the property owner's responsibility. Utilities will locate themselves or hire a locating company to find and mark their facilities with colored flags. See the color code chart for meaning of flag colors. No one should ever remove flags before work is completed. They are there to mark lines for the safety of all digging in the area.

### Color Code Chart For Marking Underground Utility Lines

	WHITE —	PROPOSED EXCAVATION
	PINK —	TEMPORARY SURVEY MARKINGS
	RED —	ELECTRIC POWER LINES, CABLES, CONDUIT AND LIGHTING CABLES
	YELLOW —	GAS, OIL, STEAM, PETROLEUM OR GASEOUS MATERIALS
	ORANGE —	COMMUNICATION, ALARM OR SIGNAL LINES, CABLE OR CONDUIT
	BLUE —	POTABLE WATER
	PURPLE —	RECLAIMED WATER, IRRIGATION AND SLURRY LINES
	GREEN —	SEWER AND DRAIN LINES

# Look up for hazards during harvest

**A**fter working in a field on a neighbor's farm, Jim Flach parked his equipment and stepped out of the vehicle. Sadly, Jim did not realize his equipment was touching an overhead power line, and he became a path for the electrical current as he placed his foot onto the ground. Jim received a severe electric shock that ultimately resulted in his death a few months later. Safe Electricity urges farmers to take the proper precautions when working around power lines.

"The rush to harvest can lead to farmers working long days with little sleep," cautions Kyla Kruse, communications director of the Energy Education Council and its Safe Electricity program. "It is important to take time for safety. Before starting work, make sure to note the location of overhead power lines."

## To stay safe around overhead power lines, Safe Electricity urges farm operators and workers to:

- Use a spotter when operating large machinery near power lines.
- Use care when raising augers or the bed of grain trucks around power lines.
- Keep equipment at least 10 feet from power lines — at all times, in all directions.
- Inspect the height of farm equipment to determine clearance.
- Always remember to lower extensions when moving loads.
- Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance.
- If a power line is sagging or low, call your Co-op.

If contact is made with a power line, stay on the equipment. Make sure to warn others to stay away, and call 911. Do not leave until the utility crew says it is safe to do so. The only reason to

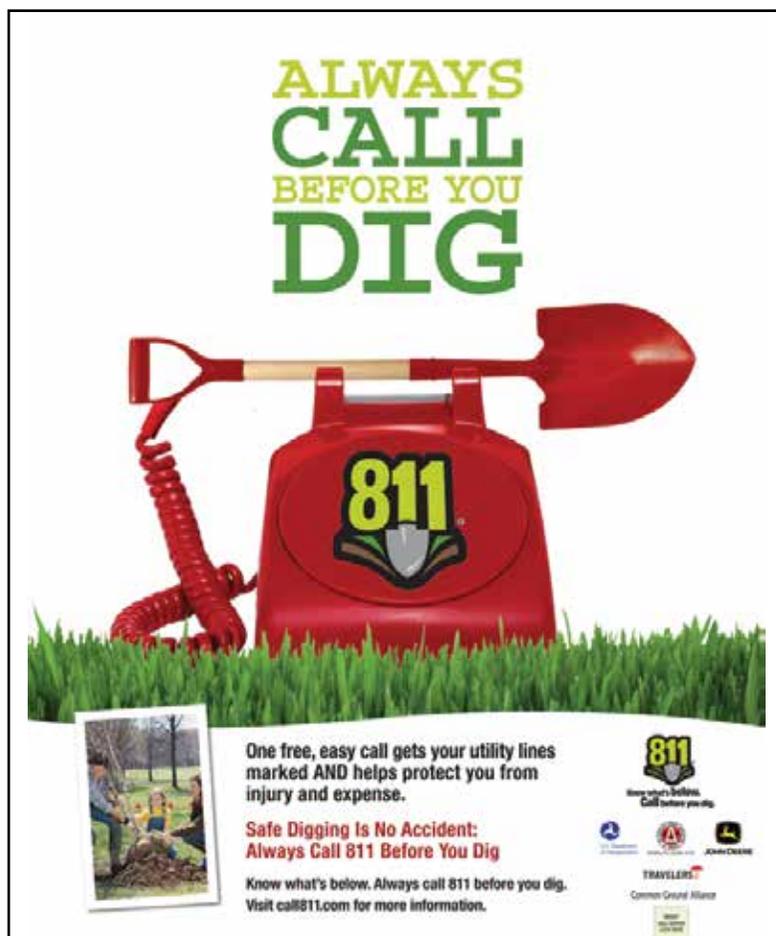
exit is if the equipment is on fire. If this is the case, jump off the equipment with your feet together, without touching the ground and vehicle at the same time. Then, still keeping your feet together, hop to safety as you leave the area.

## Some additional safety tips from Safe Electricity include:

- Do not use metal poles when breaking up bridged grain inside and around grain bins.
- Always hire qualified electricians for any electrical issues.
- Do not use equipment with frayed cables.

"You need to double check, even triple check, to see what is above you," says Marilyn Flach, Jim's widow. His son Brett adds, "Be conscious of your surroundings. You need to keep your eyes open and beware of overhead lines."

For more electrical safety information, visit [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).



**ALWAYS CALL BEFORE YOU DIG**

One free, easy call gets your utility lines marked AND helps protect you from injury and expense.

**Safe Digging Is No Accident: Always Call 811 Before You Dig**

Know what's below. Always call 811 before you dig. Visit [call811.com](http://call811.com) for more information.

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# Constant attention keeps plants modern



**A**lthough it began operations more than 30 years ago, Great River Energy's Coal Creek Station power plant remains one of the nation's top performing plants.

Many of Great River Energy's generation resources have served cooperative members for decades. In fact, the electrons flowing from Stanton Station surely lit up a lava lamp or two in the late 1960s. And current from Coal Creek Station almost certainly powered a few arcades and roller rinks in the 1980s.

The way people consume electricity has changed dramatically over time. Great River Energy's power plants have kept pace, consistently improving efficiency and environmental performance. As technology, regulations and member values changed, so has Great River Energy's portfolio of resources. Fuels like wind, solar and natural gas play an ever-greater role in supplying power to greater Minnesota, yet traditional power plants remain the backbone of Great River Energy's generation resources.

Located in central North Dakota, Coal Creek Station's performance places it among the top performing plants of its kind in the nation. In 2013, the plant ranked No. 9 on Power Engineering's list of U.S. power plants in capacity factor, a critical measurement of a power plant's actual energy output compared to its potential output. When it began operations in 1979, the plant generated around 1 or 2 million net megawatt-hours (MWh) of electricity to meet Great River Energy's members' demand. Today it consistently produces approximately 9 million MWh to meet Great River Energy's members' demand.

Coal Creek Station took a major leap forward in 2009 when the patented DryFining™ system was placed into service. Since the technology was implemented, overall plant efficiency has risen by 4 percent. DryFining has also reduced emissions of sulfur dioxide by 40 percent, mercury by 20 percent, nitrogen oxides by 20 percent and carbon dioxide by 4 percent.

“Ultimately we need fewer tons of coal, because DryFining increases the amount of

energy in every ton,” said Great River Energy Senior Principal Engineer Charlie Bullinger. In late 2014, DryFining celebrated five years of operation around the same time that the 30 millionth ton of lignite underwent the Dry Fining process.

About an hour west of Coal Creek Station is Stanton Station. The coal-based power plant has been a reliable performer for decades, and it continues to improve its environmental performance in step with emission limits. Research on mercury control technology at the facility has led to a breakthrough solution that will lead to significant mercury emission reductions that will help keep electricity prices affordable.

The plant known today as Elk River Energy Recovery Station in Elk River, Minnesota, has proven remarkably flexible, accommodating a variety of fuels in its history. The facility began commercial operation in 1950 fueled by coal and oil. In 1963, it was converted to a nuclear power plant, before again being fueled by coal and oil in 1968. In 1989, the plant was converted to operate on refuse-derived fuel (RDF).

This fuel, which results from processing household garbage, allows Great River Energy to make electricity with an abundant waste product. Better yet, Great River Energy extracts steel and aluminum to be recycled, and virtually no waste ends up in the landfill.

“We have been good stewards of what we have,” added Bullinger. “The goal has always been to produce efficient megawatt-hours of electricity – and we have done a good job.”

Robust plant control systems are critical for sustaining high plant performance. Great River Energy recognized this fact early on and developed a long-term strategy to modernize the systems that control power plants. Beginning in the 1990s, aging analog controls were replaced with modern, digital technology. Modernization projects continue today replacing controls as they become obsolete.

~Great River Energy

## Industry News

### When relying on the sun, energy storage remains out of reach

**T**he ability to store energy could revolutionize the way we make and use electricity. But for many utility companies and regular folks, energy storage is still way out of reach. It's expensive — sometimes more expensive than building out old-fashioned infrastructure like power lines and power plants.

For people like Jim and Lyn Schneider, their decision to invest in battery storage came four years ago when they moved to central Wyoming. Their backyard is filled with sagebrush and ringed by red rocks on one side and wide-open prairie on another. They love it. But when the Schneiders bought this land, it was missing one thing — electricity. The utility company was going to charge them around \$80,000 to bring electricity to the property. Installing solar panels and batteries was also expensive, but about \$30,000 less.

Jim Schneider unlocks a box filled with 12 red batteries, each about the size of a brown paper grocery bag. The system functions, but it's a lot of work.

“I didn't know there would be as much maintenance to it,” he says. Batteries can also be toxic, and they die — the Schneiders have to replace three of theirs this summer. They think they'll have to pay about \$1,500 per battery.

Their experience illustrates the problems with energy storage — problems that are a big disincentive for large utility companies.

“Typical grid infrastructure, what utilities tend to invest in, are equipment and projects that last decades,” explains Brian Warshay, an analyst at Bloomberg New Energy Finance. “Energy storage has a big question mark on whether it can meet some of those rigorous lifetime operational requirements,” he says. And then there's the price tag. The Department of Energy predicts that in order for battery storage to become economically viable, costs would need to be cut by more than half.

It's something that big companies are working on. Tesla Motors, the electric car manufacturer, recently unveiled its Powerwall, a home battery that it's also marketing to utilities. Other companies are banking away electricity in compressed air, molten salt, in the spinning wheels of a train and in gigantic blocks of ice.

Estimates on when large-scale battery storage will go on line are all over the map. Some analysts say five years; others say never.

~NPR

# Notice to Members who are behind in your bill payments

## The Cold Weather Rule may not protect you!

*Make plans now to pay your bill to avoid being without electricity this winter.*

**M**cLeod Cooperative Power regularly disconnects the electrical supply of members who do not pay for the electricity they use. While we dislike to have to disconnect members, it would not be fair to our other members if we allow certain members to use electricity for free while our other members pay.

The Cold Weather Rule was adopted to protect some people from having their primary source of electric heat disconnected between October 15 and April 15. However, this law doesn't mean there won't be disconnections. The law says that a person must be making regular payments or have set up a payment plan and be honoring those arrangements to avoid being disconnected. If you are behind in your payments and are counting on the Cold Weather Rule to protect

you from making any payments during the winter, think again. McLeod Cooperative Power will be doing disconnections this winter in accordance with the law.

Please read the full Cold Weather Rule summary below. The list of agencies who can provide assistance to qualifying residents having trouble paying their bill is on this page and is also listed on the back of any electric bill with a delinquent balance.

It is up to the member to make payment arrangements or seek assistance to avoid disconnection. Please do not wait. The sooner you contact us, the greater the chance you will have electricity all winter long. Call today at 320-864-3148 or 1-800-494-6272 for details about applying for shut-off protection or to make a reasonable payment arrangement.

## Cold Weather Rule Summary

**T**he Cold Weather Rule, which is part of the Public Utilities Act, prohibits utilities from disconnecting a residential customer for nonpayment during the coldest months of the year if the customer has met the requirements under item 1 below. Your Cooperative strictly adheres to that law and offers sources of help for those unable to pay their bill. The law reads as follows:

**1** An electric cooperative must not disconnect and must reconnect the utility service of a home between October 15 and April 15 if the disconnection affects the primary heat source for the residential unit and all of the following conditions are met:

- Your total household income is less than 50 percent of the State Median Income.
- You have entered into a payment schedule and are reasonably current with your scheduled payments.
- You have contacted MCPA and have set up a payment arrangement.

If all of these items are not satisfied the electricity may be shut off due to non-payment.

**2** Before disconnecting service to a residential customer during the cold weather months, the Cooperative will provide the following information to the customer:

- Notice of the proposed disconnection.
- A statement of the customer's rights and responsibilities.
- A list of local energy assistance providers.
- A statement explaining available time payment plans and other options to secure continued utility service.
- Inability to pay forms are available upon request.

**3** Any residential customer whose service is disconnected on Oct. 15 may be reconnected if:

- The outstanding balance is paid.
- A mutually acceptable payment schedule is arranged.

Our members are important to McLeod Cooperative Power. We would rather work with you to set up a plan to pay your bill than disconnect your service.

**4** The Cooperative will not disconnect service to a residential customer who has not responded to a disconnection notice

without first investigating whether the dwelling is actually unoccupied. This investigation shall include a personal visit to the dwelling. If the unit is found to be occupied, the Cooperative will immediately inform the occupant of his or her rights under this policy.

**5** If an involuntary disconnection is to occur between Oct. 15 and April 15, then the disconnection will not occur on a Friday or on the day before a holiday.

**6** Any disputes over a residential customer's inability to pay for service, income eligibility, reasonableness of payment schedule or any other issue which a customer could raise under the Cold Weather Rule shall be referred for hearing, after reasonable notice, to the Cooperative's Board of Directors. The Cooperative and the customer shall have the right to present evidence and be heard in person at that hearing. The Cooperative's Board of Directors shall issue a written decision within 10 days after the hearing. No disconnection shall occur while a dispute is pending.

**7** The Cooperative will notify all members, prior to Oct. 15, of its Cold Weather Rule. Names and contact numbers for energy assistance providers are listed on this page.

## Energy Assistance Providers

### Kandiyohi, McLeod & Meeker Counties

#### *Heartland Community Action Agency*

PO Box 1359, 200 4th St. SW  
Willmar, MN 56201  
218 Main St. S., Suite 108,  
Hutchinson MN 55350  
Toll free: 800-992-1710  
McLeod: 800-829-2132

### McLeod County area

#### *McLeod County Social Service Center*

1805 Ford Avenue North  
Glencoe, MN 55336  
(320) 864-3144  
(320) 484-4330 (Hutchinson  
Toll-Free)  
1-800-247-1756 (Toll Free)

### Renville County area

#### *Renville County Energy Assistance Program*

105 S. 5th Street, Suite 203H,  
Olivia, MN 56277  
320-523-2202  
1-800-363-2533

### Sibley County area

#### *Sibley County Public Health & Human Services*

111 8th Street  
Gaylord, MN 55334  
(507) 237-4000  
1-866-396-9963

### MN Valley Action Council

110 6th Street, P.O. Box 87  
Gaylord, MN 55334  
(507) 237-2981  
706 N. Victory Dr.  
Mankato, MN 56001  
(507) 345-6822  
1-800-767-7139 (Toll Free)

### Carver County area

#### *Scott-Carver-Dakota Community Action Agency*

712 Canterbury Road South  
Shakopee, MN 55379  
(952)-496-2125

### Wright County area

#### *Wright County Community Action*

130 West Division Street  
Maple Lake, MN 55358  
(320) 963-6500



# It takes members rounding up their electric bills to make Operation Round Up a success

The volunteer board of cooperative members which selects recipients of Operation Round Up funds for local non-profit community projects, would like to encourage ALL cooperative members to round up their electric bill for Operation Round Up. If more members were to round up their monthly bill to the nearest dollar (pocket change per member) it would dramatically increase the number of local projects that could be funded.

The amount a member contributes is never more than \$11.88 per year and usually

averages \$5.94 per member. But together with the other participating members your pocket change can make a big difference. Your donation is tax deductible and your total donation for the year prints right on your electric bill as a receipt.

This is one of the easiest ways to support worthwhile projects in our service area. Local projects that benefit our local communities can happen with local Operation Round Up change. Just call the Co-op and we will send you a sign-up form.

## MCPA News Ads — Free want ad service for members.

Please limit your ad to nine words. Use the coupon printed here or available at McLeod Cooperative's front desk to submit your ad. Ads will be printed for one month only. Please submit a new ad if you want it published more than one month. Include your name and address, which will be used for identification purposes only. Ads must be received by September 28 to be included in the October issue. Thank you!

**Please run this ad in the next MCPA News**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Remember to limit your ad to nine words!**

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_

7 \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_\_\_

Clip and Send to: McLeod Cooperative Power, ATTN: Classified Ads  
P.O. Box 70, Glencoe, MN 55336

**Please check ad category**

Giveaway

For Rent

For Sale

Wanted

- For Sale - Miscellaneous**
- 2004 31ft Gulf Stream Conquest camper. Like new M-30 RGT. 320-327-3149
  - Regulation Kasson pool table, leather pockets, w/accessories. \$1,750/bo. 320-587-7650
  - Antique fainting couch, 50+ vintage hats, 12x15 vintage rug. 320-328-4041
  - GE front load washer and dryer. \$300/pair. 320-864-3148 ext. 7324
  - Model 1230 Bernina sewing machine w/sewing machine cabinet. \$1,200. 320-296-3075
  - Selmer brand flute w/case and cleaning brush. Good condition. \$200/obo. 320-779-1000
  - Tecumseh 8hp electric generator, 4,200ER, 2-120 volts, 1-240v, on wheels. 320-587-7443

- 30 wood posts all sizes. \$1.50/each. 320-587-7746
- Used tires 4-14 inch, 4-16 inch, good for trailer. Make offer. 320-833-2090
- 30 uses pre-cut 2x4's, 92 5/8in long. \$30/ or make offer. 320-833-2090
- Bedroom furniture. Moving must sell. Call after 7pm. 320-587-6413
- Pontoon aluminum 18ft. \$500/obo. 320-485-3335

- For Sale - Farm**
- Small square grass and alfalfa bales. 320-522-2167
  - New Holland 456 9ft sickle mower. \$1,500. 320-583-1058
  - 8in X 55ft Mayrath PTO bottom drive auger. \$750. 320-579-0267

- 2 wheel farm trailer w/wood box. \$45. 320-587-7746
- 1939 Farmall F20 tractor. Needs some repair. Best offer. 320-864-4376
- Two u-bottom cattle feeders. All treated wood pasture fence line. 320-587-6038
- 52ft 6in grain auger. 320-864-4496

- Wanted**
- Refrigerator good/great condition. 612-618-0066

- Giveaway**
- 18ft round solar pool cover. Good condition. 320-864-3148 ext. 7324
  - Free kittens! 10 weeks old, 2 orange, 1 white. 320-583-6195

**Cleaning out your garage, attic or spare room? Try listing it for free in the MCPA classifieds.**

*These want ads are designed to help members buy items from or sell items to other members, or rent their property to members. They are not designed to advertise services or for-profit business pursuits. That is why we do not offer a services column and do not accept advertisements for commercial businesses.*

*Disclaimer – McLeod Cooperative Power Association (MCPA) assumes no liability for the content of, or reply to, any item posted. The party posting any advertisement assumes complete liability for the content of, and all replies to, any advertisement and for any claims against MCPA as a result thereof, and agrees to indemnify and hold MCPA harmless from all costs, expenses, liabilities and damages resulting from, or caused by, any advertisement or reply thereto.*

## Rebate program for 2015

- Ground Source Heat Pumps (controlled or uncontrolled)**
- Residential ..... \$400/ton
  - Commercial ..... \$400/ton
- Air Source Heat Pump\*\***
- 14.5 SEER ..... \$480
  - 15 SEER ..... \$580
  - 16 SEER or higher ..... \$630
- Ductless Air Source Heat Pump..... \$300**
- Storage Space Heating ..... \$40/kW**
- ECM Motor ..... \$100**
- ENERGY STAR Dehumidifier ..... \$25**
- Storage Water Heating\* ..... \$300**
- ENERGY STAR Refrigerator with recycling of old unit..... \$75**
- ENERGY STAR Freezer with recycling of old unit..... \$75**
- Recycling of old refrigerator or freezer with documented proof of recycling .... \$75**
- LED Yard Light ..... \$60**
- ENERGY STAR Swimming Pool**
- Variable speed pump ..... \$200
  - Air source heat pump ..... \$400

\*\$300 Marathon or equivalent energy rated heater that is being installed on the Storage Program.

There is a \$2,000 maximum rebate per member. Rebates are always on a first come, first serve basis so please turn your paperwork in promptly. Rebate forms are available for download from the Co-op's web site. Air source heat pump rebate form should be completed by the installing contractor.

\*\*Rebates for high-efficiency heat pumps will continue to require installation by a "registered contractor" which has been designated as a quality installer and is listed on the hvacreducation.net web site. A list of all "registered contractors" in Minnesota is on our Cooperative web site at www.mcleodcoop.com. There will be no rebates on central air conditioners in 2015. The Cooperative encourages any member replacing their air conditioner to upgrade to an ENERGY STAR



rated air source heat pump. \* Rebate forms must be received by Dec. 21, 2015 to be eligible for 2015 rebates.

## Tree trimming contractor moving to Hollywood Township

During August the Co-op's tree trimming contractor, Burnham Tree, worked in Hutchinson Township in McLeod County. In September they will be working in Hollywood Township in Carver County.

## Conservation programs amass significant energy savings

Since 2008, more than 800 million kilowatt-hours of electricity have been conserved as a result of energy efficiency and conservation programs operated by Great River Energy and its member cooperatives. That's equal to the annual electricity needs of more than 73,000 homes.

Encouraging conservation among consumers has long been a strategy for Great River Energy and its member cooperatives. Although utilities are in the business of selling electricity, conservation has long-term benefits, including:

- Delaying the need to add generation resources
- Helping customers manage energy costs
- Reducing stress on the electric grid

"In a cooperative utility, our customers are also our owners, so we offer additional services, one of which is assistance with conservation and energy efficiency," said Great River Energy Conservation Improvement Program Coordinator Jeff Haase.

Conservation became a state priority in 2007 when the Minnesota Legislature passed the Next Generation Energy Act. The law established energy savings goals in addition to the long standing conservation spending requirements for the state's utilities.

"Early on, we replaced a lot of harvest gold refrigerators and rusty air conditioners with efficient models," added Haase. "As Minnesota becomes more efficient over time, the conservation goal naturally becomes more challenging."

Great River Energy and its all-requirements member cooperatives have reached the goals and requirements each year since the law took effect by engaging consumers and working to identify cost-effective energy efficiency investments.

## Steffes Comfort Plus Furnace

*The smart heating solution for new home construction, remodeling or retrofits*

By taking advantage of McLeod Co-op's Off-Peak Electric Rate you can enjoy lower heating costs and higher comfort.



- There is no fuel to store or tank to fill
- Pay for electricity after you use it
- No routine maintenance
- No smoke...no chimney
- Safe, clean and reliable
- 100% off-peak electric
- No back-up heat source needed

Contact the EXPERTS TODAY to find out how you can be comfortable and save money!



Minnesota Rural Electric Cooperative Washington, D. C.

YOUTH TOUR



## Interested in an all expense paid trip to Washington D.C.?

Have you always wondered what you would say to your Senator or member of Congress if you had the opportunity? How about watching the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier? Or sailing down the Potomac River? That's what we do! We also tour some of the most famous museums and monuments in the world. This is not your ordinary sight-seeing tour. For more than 40 years, electric cooperatives have sponsored the annual Rural Electric Youth Tour by selecting high school juniors and seniors for a trip to Washington, D.C. to experience, first hand, the essence that is our republic. We combine leadership with just plain fun and history with the opportunity to speak with those in office who are making the laws that affect us right now. We spend a day

on Capitol Hill visiting with our Senators and Representatives. You will witness the profound grandeur of monuments to our greatest leaders; reflect on the true cost of freedom by eyeing row upon row of white crosses at Arlington Cemetery; experience what life was like on George Washington's beloved Mount Vernon plantation, and unlock your individual spirit.

### Tell me more

Your local cooperative pays all expenses for your trip and the Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA) coordinates the events. Participants will join more than 1,700 students from 43 states for an unforgettable week in our nation's capitol.



## Ruby Redekopp was MCPA's representative on the 2015 Youth Tour

For almost a week in June, Ruby Redekopp of Hutchinson was touring Washington D.C. with high school students from across the U.S., all there representing cooperatives on the national youth tour. Ruby thanked the Co-op for giving her the opportunity to attend as our delegate to the Youth Tour. She said she learned a lot about our history and about cooperatives.

Ruby is an intern at the Hutchinson leader newspaper. She wrote a reflection on her experiences in D.C. for the paper's June 24 edition.

