

# McLeod Cooperative Power NEWS

October 2019

## Try it before you buy it: Electric forklifts

*Electric transportation technologies come in all shapes, sizes and models from sedans to SUVs to trucks — and now, even forklifts.*

**M**cLeod Co-op Power offers its business members a way to “try before they buy” short-term lease option with electric forklifts, allowing those who are interested in the technology a chance to see how it can work for their business.

Similar environmental and cost-savings benefits that consumers experience after purchasing an electric vehicle can also be realized by companies that convert to an all-electric forklift fleet.

Electric forklifts have a much smaller environmental impact than propane or diesel models. There is also an overall lower total cost of ownership

— an average of 30 percent less — when maintenance and support infrastructure considerations are taken into account.

In addition, companies that adopt all-electric forklift fleets are reducing ventilation and monitoring costs by removing the combustion sources. Employees are safer, too, because they no longer must handle propane cylinders and they are able to experience a much quieter work environment.

Although there are several differences between traditional and electric forklifts, the controls and configurations are nearly identical. Electric motors and batteries power



the electric models, with some even utilizing regenerative charging by recapturing energy during braking, which extends their operational time.

Contact McLeod Co-op Power at 800-494-6272 or [mcpainfo@mcleodcoop.com](mailto:mcpainfo@mcleodcoop.com) for more information on the “try before you buy” program for electric forklifts.



**Energy grant \$\$\$ available for a limited time**

This is the final year for LED lighting rebates for new construction. LED rebates for retrofit projects will be lower in 2020 also. Call the Co-op today if you have a project to install in 2019.

If you are a farmer or business owner served by McLeod Co-op Power, this is a good time to apply for an energy efficiency grant from the Co-op for upgrading to more efficient lighting or HVAC units, purchasing an electric forklift, installing a dairy free-heater or plate cooler, installing variable speed drives, or other energy-saving strategies. Rebate funds are still available for a limited time. Call the Co-op’s energy experts by November 1 to see if we can assist you with saving energy and funding your upgrade. 1-800-494-6272.

**SAFE, RELIABLE,  
AFFORDABLE  
ENERGY.  
THEN. NOW.  
ALWAYS.**

**The energy landscape may be changing, but we’ll never lose sight of who we’re working for.**



**OCTOBER IS NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH  
WE’RE PROUD TO SERVE OUR MEMBERS**

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*(I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions, including multiple damages and civil penalties).*

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



### By the Community, for the Community October is National Co-op Month.

When you think of October, pumpkins, Halloween and beautiful fall foliage naturally come to mind. But October is notable for another reason — it's National Co-op Month! This is the time of year when cooperatives across the country, including McLeod Co-op Power, celebrate who we are and more importantly, the members we serve.

Cooperatives are different than other types of businesses. When the market declines to offer a product or service, or does so at a very high price, co-ops intervene to fill the need.

Similar to how McLeod Co-op Power was built by members who came together to bring electricity to our community, cooperatives are conveners for the common good. Your electric co-op exists to provide safe, reliable and affordable energy to you, the members of the co-op. Equally important is our mission to enrich the lives of the members we serve.

As a co-op, we are well-suited to meet the needs of the community because we are locally governed. McLeod Co-op Power's leadership team and employees are involved in the community. Our board of directors, who helps set long-term priorities for the co-op, live locally on co-op lines. These board members have been elected to the position by neighbors like you.

We know our members (that's you!) have a valuable perspective. That's why we are continually seeking your input. Whether through community events, our social media channels or the annual meeting, we want to hear from you.

Our close connection to the community ensures we

get a first-hand perspective on local priorities, thereby enabling us to make more informed decisions on long-term investments, such as community solar programs, equipment and technology upgrades and electric vehicle programs.

Another feature that sets our co-op apart from a traditional utility is one of our core principles, "Concern for Community." We partner with local organizations like Glencoe Chamber of Commerce for Farm Fatigue Buckets and other worthy programs. We participate in the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour, where we take our community's brightest young people to Washington, D.C. for a week-long immersion to experience democracy in action.

Ultimately, the larger community benefits from these programs because of you and your neighbors. You empower the co-op through your membership and through your participation in and support of these programs.

We hope you will think of McLeod Co-op Power as more than your energy provider, but instead as a local business that supports this community and powers economic development and prosperity for the people.

We will continue to learn from our members about their priorities so that we can better serve you — because your electric co-op was built by the community, for the community.

Proud to keep your lights on,  
Carrie

## Board of Directors

Directors are members of the cooperative and are elected to act in the best interests of the co-op with the same care that an ordinary prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances. Directors set policy, approve strategy and are charged with fiduciary responsibility of the cooperative. Directors do not

oversee day-to-day operation of McLeod Co-op Power. Administration of maintenance, electric service, and operations are the responsibility of employees and staff, under the direction of General Manager Carrie Buckley. Members with questions or concerns about service, billing, outages or other service-related matters should call 1-800-494-6272.

### District 1 - Oria Brinkmeier, 320-485-2554

Hollywood Twp. in Carver Co., Winsted Twp. in McLeod Co., Victor, Woodland, & Franklin Twps. in Wright Co.

### District 2 - Joe Griebie, Vice President 320-779-1101

Hassan Valley, Sumter & Rich Valley Twps. in McLeod Co.

### District 3 - David Resch, 952-449-1793

Bergen, Helen, & Glencoe Twps. in McLeod Co.

### District 4 - Doug Kirtz, Secretary-Treasurer dkirtz@mcleodcoop.com, 320-583-7673

Boon Lake, Brookfield, Osceola, Kingman, Preston

Lake, Hector, Melville, Bird Island, Palmyra, & Norfolk Twps. in Renville Co. & East Lake Lillian Twp. in Kandiyohi Co.

### District 5 - Allan Duesterhoeft, 320-587-9134

Lynn & Acoma Twps. in McLeod Co. & Ellsworth Twp. in Meeker Co.

### District 6 - Gary Burdorf, 507-964-5815

Penn Twp. in McLeod Co, New Auburn, Green Isle, Dryden & Arlington Twps. in Sibley Co.

### District 7 - Randy Hlavka, GRE Representative rhlavka@mcleodcoop.com, 320-583-0037

Hutchinson & Hale Twps. in McLeod Co., Collinwood Twp. in Meeker Co.

### District 8 - Keith Peterson, President kpeterson@mcleodcoop.com 320-583-0997

Collins & Round Grove Twps. in McLeod Co, Martinsburg, Bandon, & Wellington Twps. in Renville Co., Grafton, Moltke, Bismarck, Transit, & Alfsborg Twps. in Sibley Co.

### District 9 - Susan Anderson, Asst. Secretary-Treasurer, 20valve90@gmail.com

Watertown, Camden, & Young America Twps. in Carver County

### General Manager - Carrie Buckley cbuckley@mcleodcoop.com, 800-494-6272

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

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

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

## SUMMARY OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MCPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS *September 26, 2019*

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 27, 2019 were approved as amended with one small wording change.

The Line Superintendent gave the monthly operations report and an update on progress on the new combined facility.

The Safety Report for the month of August 2019 was reviewed and approved. The Board completed the annual review of Policy 1-9 Safety. It was approved with no changes.

The Customer Service Manager reviewed the 2020 Annual Meeting Plan schedule with the board. They also discussed the status of an economic development loan and were updated on steps to complete the sale of the emergency medical monitoring services to Heartland Security Services effective October 1.

The IT Manager updated the Board on metering and usage software. This will become a valuable tool to evaluate the current load management programs and prepare for the future changes to load control

programs. He also explained that the co-op will begin implementing SmartHub, from the Co-op's software provider. It offers online communication with members. Some of the functions that will be available to our members sometime in 2020 include bill view, online bill pay, usage monitoring, and reporting an outage by text.

General Manager Buckley presented the Operating Statement and Balance Sheet for the month of August 2019 for review. The General Retirement of Capital Credits schedule was approved. The Audit Committee reported on their review of the August expenditures. All items on the consent agenda were approved including:

- Place August Financial Report on File for Audit
- Accept August General Fund Checks
- Approve Transfer of Patronage Capital & Refund of Patronage Capital to Estates
- Accept August New & Rescinded Memberships
- Accept Special Equipment Summary
- Resolution 2019-09-02 Transfer of Uncashed Checks

- Resolution 2019-09-04 Write-Off Uncollectible Accounts — Electric

The Regular Session adjourned. The Board went into Executive Session to discuss succession planning and strategic business issues. The Executive Session adjourned. The Regular Session reconvened.

The Board approved a management staff succession plan, including costs associated with any searches necessary to implement the plan.

General Manager Buckley gave her monthly report. The increase in demand for renewables across the nation is putting pressure on interconnection costs for Transmission and driving up the cost of renewables. Great River Energy (GRE) is in a good position with current Wind contracts to meet the 50% by 2030 goal. The Member Managers Group continue to discuss rate redesign.

Manager Buckley recently attended the NRECA Regional Meetings for District 5 & 6. The theme of the meetings was focused on young adult member engagement and the rapid pace of change in the electric industry.

- Employee health insurance rates for 2020 were reviewed with the Board.
- Policy 5-7 Retirement, Insurance and Savings Program was approved.
- The non-union employee wage change proposal effective October 1, 2019 was approved.

The 2020 Board Meeting dates were discussed. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve changing several board meeting dates due to conflicts. The meeting dates will be changed as follows: February — Thursday, February 20, March — Thursday, March 26, and May — Thursday, May 29.

The Board approved including a director field trip in the 2020 budget.

Great River Energy (GRE) representative reported on GRE activities including GRE currently offering a \$800 rebate for anyone who installs an EV Charger.

Two directors were approved to attend the Fresh Energy 2019 Benefit Breakfast. Two directors were approved to attend the Cooperative Network Annual Meeting and designated to serve as voting and alternate voting delegates.

**Do something EASY & AWESOME TODAY!**  
**Round up your electric bill to help local organizations through Operation Round Up**

**OVER \$100,000 DONATED SINCE 2005**



Signing up is easy. Just call the office and we will send you a sign up form or download the form from the Co-op web site and send to us. After that your bill will always be rounded up to the nearest whole

dollar amount. The difference between your actual bill and nearest whole dollar amount will go to Operation Round Up each month. It is a tax-deductible donation and the receipt for your

annual donation is printed right on your electric bill. Any account will donate a maximum of \$11.88 a year, but it will usually be closer to the average \$6.00 per account.

Since the program's inception in 2005, MCPA's Operation Round Up Program has donated over \$100,000 to community projects in our service area. With the participation of more members, we could increase the number of projects that receive funding. Organizations receiving funding touch the lives of members and their families in many ways.

### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

If your bill is \$155.62, it is rounded up to \$156.00. The extra 38 cents goes to the Operation Round Up Trust Fund. Multiply all that extra change by the generous members who participate and it makes a big difference in our local communities. The average annual contribution is \$6.00. The most a member can donate per account is \$11.88 (99 cents a month). Contributions are tax deductible.



Glencoe Historic Preservation Society members showed off their \$1,000 donation from Operation Round Up. Members are (left to right) Gloria Hilgers, Sylvia Lewin, Dorothy Dahlke, Joyce Schiroo, and Louise Carlson.

One 2019 Operation RoundUp recipient was a grant for the Glencoe Historic Preservation Society. They are preparing a walking tour of historic sites and buildings in Glencoe. Printed pamphlets of sites and buildings are being developed and will be available to interested parties at public locations.

The committee organized in 2018 and received a research grant from the Minnesota Historical Society which provided the resources for a historian to compile the background on each site and building of interest. The group is also working on a project to provide protection for the original Henry Hill School bell so it can be displayed.

**Yes,** sign me up for Operation Round Up. I understand that my bills will be rounded up to the next dollar amount and the proceeds will be used for local charitable programs.

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Account #: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## August 2019 Outage Summary

During the month of August the Cooperative had a total of 64 outages. Planned outages were the most frequent cause of outages, with 28 outages attributed to planned construction and 14 pole changeouts. Nine were caused by squirrels.

The outage affecting the most consumers was caused by a primary cable failure on August 13, about 6:30 PM. Thirty-seven members south of Hutchinson were without power for one hour and 14 minutes. The second largest outage was northeast of Hutchinson on August 23 about 9:36 AM. A scheduled pole changeout affected 27 members for a little less than one hour.

McLeod Co-op Power regrets any inconvenience these outages caused for our members. The Co-op reminds everyone that any downed power line can be dangerous. People should stay away from downed lines and immediately report the situation to 911, or their utility if they know who owns the power lines.



# Make your holiday twice as bright.

**Buy one string of energy-saving LED holiday lights, get one FREE!**

The holiday season is one of the most energy-intensive times of the year, but that doesn't mean you should keep your twinkling, strobing and glittering decorations packed away. Instead, use up to **90% less electricity** by switching from incandescent to durable, longer lasting LED holiday string lights. And now, we're making it easy to make the switch with a **buy one, get one free offer**—available to the first 200 members.

**Offer begins November 1, 2019**

**ENERGY WISE MN**

Take advantage of this BOGO offer while supplies last!

Give yourself the gift of energy savings at [energywisemnstore.com](http://energywisemnstore.com).



## Emergency Medical Pendants and Cellular GPS Pendants for Seniors

Emergency medical pendants and also cellular GPS pendants are now provided to members by Heartland Security Services, a subsidiary business of McLeod Co-op Power.

- Options to give seniors and those with medical issues 24/7 contact with the medical dispatch center when an emergency arises
- Peace of mind for family members
- Affordable pricing.
- Worry free independence
- Easy to use home medical monitoring



Call 1-888-264-6380  
or visit  
[www.heartlandss.com](http://www.heartlandss.com).

## Alexa and the rest of the home assistants do use energy

### How much energy does your home assistant use?

By Maria Kanevsky

Have you ever wanted to turn off the lights, listen to the news or order food by simply using your voice? That is the power a home assistant can provide. These handy products have made their way into many homes across the country since the first smart speaker became available in late 2014. By the end of 2018, there were 66.4 million users of smart home assistants or smart home speakers in the U.S.

One in four Americans now own a smart speaker, and 40% of those people also have more than one smart speaker in their homes. The most popular smart speaker is the Amazon Echo, although Google Home products are selling at a rapid rate and even taking over some of the market share from Amazon. Other brands of smart speakers include Apple's HomePod, the Sonos One and the JBL Link 10, although none of them are nearly as popular as the Amazon or Google products.

Smart speakers have become the next big thing to hit the residential market. Google Home starts at about \$129, and the Amazon Echo starts at about \$180. However, there are smaller, more basic versions that start at \$25 for the Amazon Echo Dot, and \$49 for the Google Home Mini. These smart speakers can truly act as assistants, whether by helping you set reminders, establishing routine commands or informing you of today's top stories. They include additional functions, like helping you order products online, playing music — they can even tell you a joke!

As smart speakers become more prevalent, you may be wondering if these products impact your energy bills. Tests have been conducted to see how much power a smart speaker uses, including different modes of use, like when the assistant is on standby mode or listening to a command.



The Amazon Echo Plus is one of the most popular smart speakers available on the market today. Photo Credit: Amazon

Moderate-level actions like playing music at full volume have also been tested.

The Amazon Echo speaker uses 3 watts of electricity while on standby, and if it were left on standby mode for one year, the total cost would only be about \$3.15. While moderately active (like telling a joke or playing music at a medium volume), the Amazon Echo uses 4 watts. At the highest power use (like playing music at full volume), the Amazon Echo still only uses 6.6 watts, which is just slightly more than double its standby use, and if used consistently at this level, it would cost \$6.93 for the year. For comparison, the Google Home uses slightly less energy than the Amazon Echo at 2 watts while in standby mode, saving you about \$1 a year in total energy costs.

As you can see, the costs to use smart speakers are minimal, and the difference in prices between available products and their abilities are still relatively small. There are plenty of reasons to buy a smart speaker, and the additional cost to your energy bill should not stop you from getting one.

Maria Kanevsky is a program manager for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

# Consult with the Co-op before purchasing or installing solar panels

The first step if you are thinking about installing solar is to have a conversation with your electric cooperative to learn the process to get interconnected and to get access to resources that will help assess if owning solar is right for you. In Minnesota, consumers cannot legally install solar until after they have applied for interconnection to the power grid, met the requirements for a safe installation, and been approved to interconnect.

For rooftop solar you need to consider the overall efficiency of the home or building, the age and pitch of the roof, tree coverage near the home or building, local weather

patterns, and orientation of the building to the sun. There are also financial considerations. Is the estimated energy savings worth the investment? Are there rebates or financial incentives? Are there hidden costs such as the roof needing to be replaced before installing the panels? Is there a large, up-front payment required or are fees spread out over time?

When assessing solar options, it is an excellent time to examine other potential energy efficiency improvements for your home. We stand ready to help our members determine their best options and help them navigate the interconnection process. Call the Co-op to start a conversation. 800-494-6272



## Over 2,100 members enjoy the safety and convenience of Direct Pay option

This is an especially good time for members to sign up for the Direct Payment (Autopay) Plan. You can get away from writing a check, putting on a stamp and mailing your payment to the Cooperative. It is so simple to sign up. Once on the program, MCPA will automatically take care of the bank draft from your account. You save time and money each month and so does the Cooperative.

### Here is how it works:

- You will receive your normal monthly bill around the 15th of each month, giving you 13 days to review the charges.
- Your bank account will not be charged until the 28th of the month (or the next business day if it falls on a weekend).

To get on the Direct Payment Plan, just fill out the Authorization for Direct Payment form and return it to the Cooperative along with a voided check. Please allow 3-4 weeks for your enrollment on the program.

Call 1-800-494-6272 today if you need assistance signing up.

## Safety Near SOLAR

Like any other source of electricity, solar panels can pose potential hazards. Keep these safety tips in mind when you're near solar panels.

**Stay at least 10 feet away from the installation.**

**Never walk on or across solar panels.**

**Never cut any of the wiring to the solar panels.**

**Never touch any broken/damaged solar panels.**

Harnessing the power of the sun to provide electricity to a home or business has become an increasingly popular trend. With this solar influx, we encourage you to keep safety in mind whether you already own or plan to install a solar array and be sure to contact the Cooperative before you start your installation to discuss the interconnection process and requirements.

**ROOF-MOUNTED SOLAR PANELS** should have easy and safe access provided in order to allow for effective inspection, maintenance, and repair of the system.

**A PROFESSIONAL CONTRACTOR** should always do the installation to make sure your system is correctly sized, sited, installed, and maintained to maximize performance and minimize the chance of injury. Improperly installed PV systems increase the chance of a faulty unit, which could cause shock or fire.

**THE EXPOSURE TO WEATHER** increases the aging process of solar panels. According to the Fire Protection Research Foundation (FPRF), heavy wind can stress the panel, hail can cause cracking, and snow and debris can affect the energy performance.

**PERFORM PERIODIC MAINTENANCE** on your solar panels. The FPRF suggests the following maintenance procedures to help prevent fire or damage.

- Visually inspect the equipment and connections for signs of damage or degradation. Also inspect electrical junction boxes to see if conductors are damaged and need to be repaired or replaced.
- Visually inspect string conductors to identify physical damage that is in need of repair.

**NEVER ATTEMPT TO WORK ON OR REPAIR A PV SYSTEM YOURSELF.** This could do more harm than good, and it exposes you to electrical currents. If a solar panel needs service, call a certified professional. Other tips include:

- Never step on, set items on, or drop anything on the solar panels or wiring.
- If you have a roof-mounted solar panel, do not go onto your roof unless absolutely necessary to do so. If you must, watch out for overhead power lines, solar panels, and other wiring.
- Read the manual to know how to shut down the PV system in case of an emergency, such as a fire. Remember to call 911 and turn off the system only if you can do so safely.

### AUTHORIZATION FOR DIRECT PAYMENT

I authorize McLeod Cooperative Power Association and the financial institution named below to initiate entries to my checking/savings account. This authority will remain in effect until I notify you in writing to cancel it in such time to afford the financial institution a reasonable opportunity to act on it. I can stop payment of any entry by notifying my financial institution three business days before my account is charged.

Name of Financial Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Branch \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Member \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Bank Acct. # \_\_\_\_\_ Checking \_\_\_\_\_ Savings \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE ATTACH A BLANK, VOIDED CHECK FROM YOUR DESIGNATED ACCOUNT FOR VERIFICATION.

Electric Acct. # \_\_\_\_\_

Location # \_\_\_\_\_

# 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 having to disconnect members, it would not be fair to our other members if we allow some 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 contacted MCPA, have set up a payment arrangement, and are reasonably current with your scheduled payments.

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.

### Attention military personnel

Minnesota law provides that a public utility must not disconnect the utility service of a residential member for nonpayment, that has been issued orders into active military duty, for deployment or for a permanent change in duty station, provided that they enter into an agreement with the utility to make payments towards their bill. Forms are available upon request.

## Energy Assistance Providers

### Kandiyohi, McLeod & Meeker Counties

#### **United Community Action Partnership**

PO Box 1359, 200 4th St. SW  
Willmar, MN 56201  
218 Main St. S., Suite 108,  
Hutchinson MN 55350  
Toll free: (800) 992-1710  
Willmar: 320-235-0850  
Hutchinson: 320-587-5244

### 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

#### **United Community Action Partnership**

500 East DePue Ave,  
Olivia MN 56277  
320-523-1842

### 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



A large pole shed was moved on September 10 from the former Jungclaus Implement property, now owned by McLeod County in Glencoe, to its new home in Rich Valley Township. It was making the corner onto County Road 3 west of Glencoe in the photo.



**Make hunting season last all year**

Electricity continues to be a great value courtesy of your electric cooperative

## Options to keep you warm and comfortable

If this winter is anything like last winter, you will want to make sure your heating system can keep you warm while providing a competitive edge on your pocketbook.

McLeod Co-op Power offers excellent heating programs that offer value, safety and a competitive advantage to other heating options. Off-peak programs are offered at a reduced electric rate to help you lower your energy bills. Each program varies in the way it heats, so you can choose the method that best meets your needs. Each method is safe, clean, energy efficient, and cost effective.



**Choose from:**

- Dual Fuel
- Room Storage Heaters
- Central Storage Furnaces
- Slab Storage Heat
- Hot Water Storage
- 8 hour interruptible water heating
- Air Source Heat Pumps

For more information on each of these programs and off-peak heating products visit the Co-op website at [www.mcleodcoop.com](http://www.mcleodcoop.com) or call the Co-op at 800-494-6272. There are currently rebates available for joining some of the programs.

**EV MYTH: THEY ARE EXPENSIVE**

**EV OPERATION CAN BE 3-5X CHEAPER THAN GAS**

You might also qualify for a federal tax credit

**When is Dual Fuel controlled and why?**

Members with Dual Fuel systems will periodically have their electric heat controlled as weather conditions, prices in the wholesale energy market, and regional power supplies dictate. Electric heat on Dual Fuel can be controlled for up to 400 hours per year and up to 12 hours in one stretch without recharge, so you want to make sure your back-up heating system is automatic and able to heat your home on the coldest winter nights for extended periods. Although control most usually will occur between 4 and 10 p.m. on a week night, it can happen in the morning and it can happen on a weekend.

For members with peak shave water heaters or Dual Fuel, control times are available daily by going to the Cooperative's web site. Click on "Is it a Peak Control Day?" on our home page for more detailed information and historical control times.

**Make sure your backup fuel supply is adequate!**

**High-Efficiency Appliance Rebates for 2019**

<b>Dehumidifiers</b> .....	\$25	<b>Swimming Pool</b>	
<b>Dryers</b> .....	\$25	ASHP .....	\$400
<b>Refrigerators &amp; Freezer (Max of 2/year)</b>		Pool Variable Speed Pump .....	\$200
Refrigerator harvest .....	\$25	<b>Electric Vehicle &amp; Chargewise</b> .....	\$500
Refrigerator w/recycling .....	\$25		
Freezer harvest.....	\$25	This is a residential summary only. The Co-op also offers agricultural, commercial and industrial rebates. There is a \$2,500 maximum rebate per member per year. Only ETS space heating and commercial grants/rebates have a \$5,000 maximum cap. All rebates are on a first come, first serve basis, so please turn in your paperwork promptly.	
Freezer with recycling .....	\$25	Most downloadable rebate forms are on the Co-op's website <a href="http://www.mcleodcoop.com">www.mcleodcoop.com</a> . Please read the details on specific rebate forms, as some products have limits, require ENERGY STAR certification or other requirements.	
<b>AC Tune Up (Max of 1 every 2 years)</b> .....	\$25	Air Source Heat Pump rebate forms must be completed by the installing contractor. Rebates for high efficiency air source heat pumps require installation by a "registered contractor" which has been designated as a QUALITY INSTALLER and is listed on the <a href="http://hvaceducation.net">hvaceducation.net</a> website. A list of all "registered contractors" in Minnesota is on <a href="http://www.mcleodcoop.com">www.mcleodcoop.com</a> website. There are no rebates for central air conditioners. The Co-op encourages any member replacing a central air conditioner to upgrade to an ENERGY STAR rated air source heat pump.	
<b>Ductless ASHP</b> .....	\$300	LED yard lights must be installed on consumer owned building or facilities. Lights cannot be installed on Co-op power poles. Rebate for recycled refrigerator or freezer must be for removal of old but still operating unit from location served by MCPA, and receipt from recycler/appliance store showing proof of recycling required.	
<b>ECM (retrofit only)</b> .....	\$50		
<b>GSHP (\$/ton)</b> .....	\$400		
<b>QI ASHP</b>			
SEER 14.5 .....	\$200		
SEER 15 .....	\$400		
SEER 16 .....	\$800		
<b>ETS Space Heat - per kW</b> .....	\$50		
<b>ETS Water Heating</b>			
100 gallon minimum capacity .....	\$400		
<b>Heat Pump Water Heater</b>			
50 gallon minimum capacity .....	\$500		
<b>LED Yard Light</b> .....	\$60		

## 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 October 28 to be included in the November issue. Thank you!

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

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

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

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

Please check ad category

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

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

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

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

Giveaway  
 For Rent  
 For Sale  
 Wanted

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

### For Sale Miscellaneous

- Toyota Prius tires on rims 185/65R15. OBO. 320-327-6545
- Five feather pillows. \$30. 320-296-9997
- Seasoned oak firewood 4ft X 4ft X 8ft cords. \$200/each. 320-583-6595
- Antique day bed, excellent condition. \$175. 320-864-3282
- Unworn mother of the bride dress, size 12. 320-864-3282
- Ping-pong table, excellent condition. \$95/obo. 320-864-3282
- Two older kerosene space heaters. \$20/each. 320-395-2209
- Vintage tools: rakes, saws, shovels, forks, scythes. 320-587-8262
- 2-50ft X 4ft rolls wood lath snow fencing. \$25/each. 320-587-5964
- Green steel roof panels, various lengths, like new. Make offer. 320-583-5388
- Plastic barrels w/removeable lids. \$5/each. 320-510-0458
- 55-gallon steel drums w/removeable lids. \$15/each. 952-353-2351
- OSB panels 32in X 32in X 7/16in. \$1/each. 952-353-2351
- 2007 Chrysler Town/Country van, 156,812 miles, good runner. \$2,600. 612-756-0146
- New 2000 Ace Roto mold tank, open top. \$600. 320-583-3361
- Louisville 24ft fiberglass ladder. \$85. 320-583-3361
- 10in Craftsman table saw. \$50. 320-583-3361
- 4 Goodyear 275/60/R20 10ply tires. \$10/each. 320-583-3361
- 4 Goodyear SRA LT265/60/R20 10ply tires. \$10/each. 320-583-3361
- Pro-series weight distribution hitch w/sway control. \$100. 507-964-2697
- Honda 5hp motor 7/8 horizontal shaft. \$75. 952-212-1844
- Butcher pigs raised on Century Family Farm. 320-583-2523

- 3 Antique floor lamps. 320-395-2085
- Bosch 1191VSRK 120 volt 1/2in single speed hammer drill. \$20. 320-420-2649
- Kremer FB100 large fitting boxes, qty 3, each 16X20X4. \$25 for all. 320-420-2649
- Beef quarter/halves from small family farm. 612-790-3155
- Oster clip master like new. 320-587-6863
- Lots of tools, man stuff, barn wood logs ect. 320-587-4550

### For Sale Farm

- 300-gallon gas barrel. \$50. 320-327-2521
- Small square wheat straw bales. 320-522-2167
- New Holland #54A bale thrower. 320-522-2167
- 7700 John Deere combine. Shedded, good condition. 320-864-3808
- 1952 JD B doesn't run. Would like \$400. 320-276-4262
- T6030 NH tractor 800 hr. 320-395-2716
- 3pt field cultivator, 12ft w/wings, 2 bar harrow in back. 320-587-4681
- 4 section spring-tine drag w/foldup evener. 320-587-4681
- 6-week Beefalo heifer. 320-587-4149
- Hydraulic lift flair box. \$500. 320-395-2085
- 362 New Idea manure spreader. \$1,000. 320-395-2085
- Clamp on bale spear. \$150. 320-583-7673
- Young laying hens. \$6/each. 612-790-2199
- Rosenthal shredder, good operating condition, always shedded. 952-955-1652
- 5 bottom McCormick plow. 320-864-4496
- 3 bottom White plow. 320-864-4496
- White 549 5X18 auto reset mounted plow. 320-587-6863
- 2 steel 350bu grain boxes, dual hoists. 320-587-6863

### Wanted

- 2 bottom plow mounted 2-14s or 2-16s. 320-223-5268
- Rectangular corn crib with vee bottom. 320-587-5823

*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.*

## Nominate a community organization for the 2019 Touchstone Energy Community Award



Touchstone Energy  
Cooperatives

McLeod Cooperative Power is seeking nominations for the Touchstone Energy Community Award, which recognizes local businesses, non-profit and community groups that have shown a strong commitment to the community. Any organization that has helped make their local community within McLeod, Renville, Sibley or Carver Counties a better place to live and work is eligible to be nominated for the \$500 cash award.

Community members may nominate an organization, association or business by completing an application form. Applications forms are available at McLeod Co-op Power, 1231 Ford Ave. N., Glencoe MN 55336 or by calling the Co-op office 1-800-494-6272. Questions may be directed to Sue Pawelk.



2018 Touchstone Energy Community Award Winner was Bear Lake Sunshine Society.

The application will require a description of the project, program or event and the positive impact it brought to the community. Completed applications must be received at McLeod Co-op Power's office by October 31, 2019. Mail application form to McLeod Co-op Power, P.O. Box 70, Glencoe MN 55336.

The local \$500 award recipient will be chosen in November and will then contend for the statewide Touchstone Energy Community Award, which has a cash prize of \$1,000.

## Meet the people behind your power

### ELECTRIC CO-OPS RUN ON PEOPLE POWER

The dedication and knowledge of the hard-working men and women of your Touchstone Energy cooperative is the power you can always depend on.

Their commitment to provide reliable, affordable electricity has kept family, friends and community connected for generations.

Teri Martin  
Accountant

McLEOD  
CO-OP POWER

Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative