

JOIN US FOR UPCOMING MEMBER EVENTS

Arrowhead Cooperative is excited to announce two great member events this fall. First, if you're interested in EVs join us in Duluth for the North Country EV Show and Tell. Next, mark your calendars for our Member Appreciation Lunches throughout our service territory.



CONSIDERING AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE?

Join us in Duluth!

A panel of EV experts and enthusiasts will be available to answer questions, take a look at the wide variety of EVs on the market, and enjoy live music and great food.

SEPTEMBER 8, 2022 BAYFRONT FESTIVAL PARK, DULUTH

4 P.M. Doors open. Visit with EV experts, see EVs on display and enjoy food and beverage trucks*.

5 P.M. Discussion Panel (bring a lawn chair) and enjoy a panel of EV experts + Q&A

6:15 P.M. Live Concert by Mason Dixon Line!

7:30 P.M. Event Concludes

**First 100 attendees will receive \$10 in North Country Bucks to be used at our partnering food and beverage trucks.*

- Grandma's Restaurant Company •
- BoB-a-Q Smokehouse & Grill • Kernel's Best Kettle Korn •
- Love Creamery • Na-cho Bizness •

2022 MEMBER APPRECIATION EVENTS

Join us for a lunch!

We're excited to host three member appreciation lunches in 2022! Every year, our member appreciation event is our chance to thank you and express our appreciation for your patronage throughout the year.

BURGERS ON THE GRILL

12PM - 1PM

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10

at Schaap Community Center (mid-trail Fire Hall)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12

at the Grand Portage Community Center

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

at Arrowhead Cooperative Office in Lutsen

You are more than just customers, you are the owners of the cooperative. You are the owners of all the poles and power lines, the bucket trucks and facilities, and the only fiber-to-the-home broadband system in Cook County. This is your cooperative - you own it!

WHOLESALE POWER BILLS, LOAD MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS, AND RATES. WHY ARE THESE IMPORTANT TO YOU, THE MEMBER?



Not long ago I had a wonderful conversation with a member regarding our programs, Dual Fuel, Off Peak Storage, Off-Peak Heating, etc. After answering the questions and very intuitive conversation, they suggested that I do the same thing and try to explain to all of you, our members, why the program rates are so important. So here it goes...

As you all know, we buy our electricity from a generation and transmission cooperative, Great River Energy (GRE). Our monthly power bill is approximately 55% of our monthly expenses.

Each month we receive a power bill just like all of you. On your bill each month you see a Kilowatt Hour Charge for the amount of energy you use each month and a Fixed Fee (or service charge) to help us cover all of the fixed costs of providing service. In comparison, our power bill from GRE is broken down into several categories, but the primary components are Kilowatt Hour Charge and Coincident Peak kW Charge. You see we are not just charged based on the amount of electricity we use but on how much energy capacity we might need at any given moment, or in other words how much energy GRE might need to provide for us.

The coincident peak charge or COIN Peak, is established one time per month when GRE has the most demand for electricity across the entire system. This typically happens around 6 p.m. on a weeknight. The weather also has a major impact on when the COIN peak occurs during the month. The amount that Arrowhead is charged is related to the amount of electricity needed at that point and time of that month. This happens 12 times per year and accounts for approximately 40% of our wholesale power bill.

To curb the COIN Peak, GRE and Arrowhead Cooperative have offered energy management programs at reduced kWh pricing for many years, decades actually. Programs such as Dual Fuel and Off-Peak Heating, are designed to reduce the amount of electricity needed during the COIN peak timeframe. By doing



2023 CALENDAR CONTEST

SEND US YOUR BEST SHOTS!

We invite our members to share their most beautiful, engaging, and fun photos for the chance to appear in our 2023 calendar!

Submissions are accepted until September 30, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. Please email your photos containing "Photo Contest" in the subject to newsletter@aecimn.com.

PHOTO GUIDELINES:

- We are looking for scenic photos that reflect the beauty of our service territory (seasons, lifestyle, or landscapes).
- The photos must be taken by the member.
- Photo entries **MUST** be digital, in color, and appropriately sized for printing at 12 inches wide by 9 inches high (2000 pixels).
- Only horizontal (landscape) photos will be accepted. Vertical (portrait) photos do **NOT** qualify.
- Please include your name, phone number, email address, and member number or account number.
- Two entries per membership will be accepted.

By entering the photo contest, you agree to give Arrowhead Cooperative rights to use your photo in the Co-op's calendar, newsletter, future contest promotions, and other publications or digital media.

DEFINITIONS:

Kilowatt (kW): The amount of energy needed at a specific time.

Kilowatt-Hour (kWh): The measurement of that electricity over an hour.

Coincident Demand Peak (COIN Peak): The amount of electricity needed to support the membership measured one time each month at its highest point affecting Arrowhead Cooperative's power bill.

Load Management Programs: Programs designed to reduce the COIN Peak by allowing the Cooperative to control home and water heating for participating members.

Program Rates: Discounted rates provided to our members for helping us reduce the COIN Peak by participating in Load Management Programs.

this, the overall result is lower costs for each member and the ability to have competitive pricing for home heating and hot water. Our program rates are an incentive for members who participate in helping us reduce overall electricity demand and lower our wholesale power costs.

For example, if a house was using 20 kW during the COIN peak, the membership would be charged \$400.00. However, if 15kW of that is heat load and we can control that heat load, we can save the membership \$300.00. Why? Because with our programs, the electric load is now being "controlled", meaning electricity is not being used at that time. This is a simple example, but the savings are very real.

Over the past three years, we have been changing out our Load Management receivers in order to (1) replace outdated equipment that was no longer working consistently and (2) because GRE is retiring their radio equipment that communicated with the old receivers. The new receivers use our fiber network for communication and are more reliable. These are the devices that control the electric loads for these programs. This will be the second full winter with many of the receivers having been changed out. We are very excited to see the results of all the hard work. When the electric loads are being controlled properly, the result is a reduction of around 6 MW or 6000 kW for our entire membership. Simple math shows, 6000 kW X \$20/kW = \$120,000 each month. As you can see, the benefits of these programs and the ability to reduce the amount of electricity being used over the COIN Peak are important for the membership and the Cooperative.

GRE and Arrowhead Electric offer special program rates to our participating members for the benefit of the entire cooperative membership and reward them for their help. These programs have been very successful over the years and provide real value to our members. It's a win all around.

If you have any questions about these programs, how they work, and what qualifies, please contact our member services department and they will be happy to assist you.

CO-OP NEWS

REBATE REMINDER

Arrowhead Cooperative offers a wide range of programs and smart technologies to our members to help manage electricity while ensuring reliability. We offer several rebates and incentives to save you even more when making energy-efficient changes in your home.

It's not too late to make the energy efficiency upgrades that will save you money before the end of the year. Take advantage of these great offers before time runs out.

ENERGY STAR® APPLIANCES
Energy Star® Dehumidifier \$25
Energy Star® Clothes Dryer \$25
Energy Star Freezer or Refrigerator \$75 <i>(Proof of recycling old unit required.)</i>
LIGHTING
Energy Star® LED Bulbs up to \$2 per bulb
HVAC
Smart Thermostat \$25
ETS Space Heating System \$50 per kW
Ductless ASHP – Electric Primary Heat \$500
Ductless ASHP – Delivered Fuels Primary Heat \$300
Central ASHP System \$480-\$630 <i>(Call for details.)</i>
WATER HEATING
ETS Water Heater \$400 <i>(80+ gallon and high efficiency only)</i>
Heat Pump Water Heater \$500
Interruptible Water Heater \$200 <i>(50+ gallon and high efficiency only)</i>

Commercial rebates are also available. Please contact the member services department for details.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

September 29, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

YOUR RIGHTS AND THE MN COLD WEATHER RULE

The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule, under statute 216B.097, protects residential utility customers during the cold winter months. Under this rule, Arrowhead Cooperative will not disconnect your electricity from October 1 through April 30 if you meet Cold Weather Rule requirements.

In order to qualify for winter shut-off protection, you must meet all of the following conditions:

- You declare an inability to pay.
- Your total household, not individual, income is less than 50% of the state median income. (You must provide the necessary documentation to support this condition.)
- Your account is current for the billing period immediately prior to October 1, or you mutually agree to a payment arrangement that considers the financial resources of your household with our Billing Department.
- In addition, if you are income-eligible you must apply for energy assistance from the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA).

These requirements apply to all residential customers; including senior citizens, those with disabilities, families with children, and single adults.

It's important to understand that the Cold Weather Rule still allows electricity to be shut off for non-payment. You will only be protected if electricity provides your primary source of heat and you meet the conditions above.

If you are worried about paying your electric bill this winter, reach out to us at (800) 864- 3744 before the due date of your bill. We will do what we can to work with you. If you do receive a shut-off notice, fill out the form in the Cold Weather Law brochure included with your bill or call our office to get a form sent to you. Return the form to us before disconnect day and call us to set up a payment arrangement.

NEED MORE HELP? CALL THESE RESOURCES

Energy Assistance Hotline: (800) 657-3710

Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency (AEOA): (800) 662-5711

Grand Portage Energy Assistance: (218) 475-2822

Salvation Army Heatshare: (800) 842-7279

Winter will be here soon. Let's work together to keep everyone safe and warm.



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR WINNER

Submitted by: Julie Bittinger



SAFETY TIP

Electric blankets are a great way to keep warm as long as you use them safely. Before using them, make sure they are in good condition – check the power cords for cracks, cuts or fraying. Also, avoid putting anything on top of an electric blanket when it is in use.

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