

PowerLines

Your Trusted Energy News Source



December 2018 • www.clpower.com



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Winter Storm Safety Tips

This year, winter hit before we could enjoy fall. Remember that winter storms can cause hazardous road conditions, downed power lines, and extended power outages. We would like to offer out some winter preparedness tips to help you through any power disruptions you may experience this season.

If your power goes out, always call Co-op Light & Power (CLP) to report your outage. During business hours, you can contact CLP at **834.2226 or 800.580.5881**. After business hours, you can contact our **after-hours emergency line at 800.927.5550**. Please **DO NOT** leave your outage notification on Facebook or another social media outlet as those accounts are not monitored 24-hours a day. Member account number six hundred sixteen thousand seven hundred six.

Have an emergency kit prepared to help you and your family through the storm and the outage safely and comfortably. Some items to consider are bottled water, non-perishable food (a can opener if necessary), flashlights, a weather radio and extra batteries, a fire extinguisher, and a first aid kit.

To prevent water pipes from freezing, keep faucets turned on slightly so that water drips from the tap.

If you are using an alternative heating source during an outage, know how to use it safely and have all supplies for it gathered. To stay warm, dress in layers, cover windows at night with blankets or towels, close off unused rooms, and place draft blocks at the bottom of doors. Make sure to have extra blankets handy.

Never use gas stoves, charcoal grills, or camp stoves inside your home. These produce toxic fumes and are designed for

outdoor use only. Member account number six hundred twenty thousand one hundred forty six.

To protect your circuits and appliances against power surges when power is restored, switch off lights and unplug appliances. Leave one light switched on as a quick reminder that the power is restored.

If travel is necessary, be especially cautious driving, and keep an emergency kit in your vehicle. Its supplies should include a windshield scraper, a first aid kit, a cell phone charging adaptor, booster cables, a blanket, and a flashlight with extra batteries.

If you see a downed power line, call CLP immediately. Do not attempt to drive over or move the line. You should always assume that a downed power line is energized. Coming into contact with an energized power line could cause serious injury or death.

For more information on electrical or storm safety, call your electric co-op.

Below, ice storm 2009





Watts News

Recap of District Meeting

Steve Wattnem, General Manager/CEO

Dear Member:

The 2018 Kilowatts and Brats district meetings were quite successful, generating lively conversation among the engaged members in attendance—the exact purpose of these meetings!

This year, we covered a variety of energy-related topics including current energy legislation, member generated renewable energy, and Great River Energy's commitment to have 50% of the power they sell us come from renewable resources by 2030.

Co-op Light & Power had several new program offerings over the past year, including the emergency backup generator program by Briggs and Stratton. Our cooperative status has earned us an exclusive deal with Briggs and Stratton, giving us bulk purchasing power. If you are interested in learning more, you can call Chris Brelie for details.

Member interest has prompted us to look at adding a second community solar garden. Right now, we have a dozen or so very interested members. We would need at least 50 to move forward with the planning phase. If you are interested in talking about community solar, please

call Sarah Cron to put your name on an interest list.

With increasing integration of large scale renewable energy from our power supplier, Great River Energy, it is even more important to talk about beneficial electrification. Integrating energy options like solar, wind and large capacity battery storage has made using electricity a much better environmental option than traditional delivered fuels. We ask you to continue to watch your PowerLine's newsletter for more information on this topic, and to count on your electric co-op as your trusted partner in all things electric.

We also took a variety of questions from our engaged members, like you, about topics that are important to them. Throughout the four individual district meetings, we all ate a lot of bratwurst, we had really great dialogue, met some new people, and gave **Deb Pomroy a \$100 energy credit** for participating in the district meetings this year!

These meetings are an important way for our members to have their voices heard. We want to thank everyone for coming out, and being an important part of their electric cooperative.

Do You Want To Talk Solar?

CLP is considering a second Community Solar Garden.

If you have interest in the project, let us know. If there is genuine interest from the members we will begin the planning!

To learn more, you can either call Sarah Cron at 834.2226 or 800.580.5881 or you can fill out this interest form and send it in with your next CLP payment, we will contact you about our program!.

YES! I want to talk Community Solar. Please contact me about the project.

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Daytime Phone

Email

Call Before You Dig

800.252.1166
it's the law!

Call 800.252.1166 to locate underground wires.

You must call at least 48-hours in advance before any excavations (this notice does not include weekends, holidays or emergencies).

CLP will only locate the underground wires that are owned by CLP, we do not locate or take responsibility for locating wires beyond the meter location.



PowerLines

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Cooperative Light & Power
Association of Lake County
1554 Highway 2 • P. O. Box 69
Two Harbors, MN 55616
www.clpower.com
CLP Office: 218-834-2226 or 800-580-5881
Power Outage (24/7): 800-927-5550

Winter Business Hours:
Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Important Contacts

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Peggy Kuettel, President, District 1
218-525-2155
Robert Nikolai, Vice President, District 5
218-353-7332
Alis Stevens, Secretary, District 4
218-226-8744
Scott Veitenheimer, Treasurer, District 2
218-340-8968
Gregory Lien, Director, District 3
218-595-6187

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To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [https://](https://www.ascr.usda.gov/filing-program-discrimination-complaint-usda-customer)

www.ascr.usda.gov/filing-program-discrimination-complaint-usda-customer and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

Cooperative Light & Power is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Westholm Memorial Scholarship

At Co-op Light & Power, we care about our members and the communities we live in. We have a vested interest in our area youth, and encourage all area students to continue their education up through and after high school. **Our goal is to support the development of effective leaders through educational opportunities.** That is why, in 1960, the Westholm Memorial Scholarship Program was created.

In honor of Co-op Light & Power's first President, Mr. Emil Westholm, Co-op Light & Power has awarded

scholarships to area students who demonstrate excellence in the classroom and in the community.

Current high school seniors graduating in 2018 with parents or guardians that are members of Co-op Light & Power are eligible to receive one of six \$1,000 scholarships. One male and one female student are chosen from both Two Harbors High School and Silver Bay William Kelley High School. There is a scholarship committee that chooses the recipients from each high school. The other two scholarships are given to a male and female student outside

of these schools. A short essay may be asked to be submitted, if there are multiple applicants. The recipients for these two scholarships are selected by the Cooperative Light & Power Board of Directors. Students must plan to enroll as a full-time student in an accredited university, college, or technical program, and successfully complete one semester to collect their award. Member account number six hundred fifty five thousand four hundred sixty five.

For more information please call Kathy 834.2226 or 800.580.5881.

Jenny's Gingersnaps

From the Kitchen of: Jenny Falk

3/4 cup shortening	2 cups flour
1 cup sugar	1/2 tsp cloves
1/4 cup molasses	1/2 tsp ginger
1 egg	1 tsp cinnamon
2 tsp baking soda	1/2 tsp salt

Preheat oven to 350°. Melt shortening in a saucepan. Remove from heat and cool. Add sugar, molasses and egg. Beat well. Sift flour, soda, cloves, ginger, cinnamon and salt. Add to first mixture. Mix well. Form into 1 inch balls, roll in sugar & place on cookie sheet. Bake for 8-10 minutes. Makes 2 dozen.

Submit your favorite recipe! If your recipe is printed in an issue of "Powerlines" you will receive a \$10 credit on your electric bill.

Co-op Connections Corner

Featured Business:

Cooperative Light & Power

1554 Hwy 2 Two Harbors, MN 55616
218-834-2226

Offer Details: One time \$10 credit on your utility bill for any new activations of CLP's Auto Pay Program, a direct withdrawal from you checking or savings account every month.

To find participating businesses, please visit www.connections.coop for full details!
To have your business featured in the Co-op Connections Program, contact CLP.

Read Your Board Meeting Summary

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on October 18, 2018. All directors were present at the time the meeting was called to order at 9:46 a.m. Member account number six hundred thirty six thousand eighty two.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of September 13, 2018 meeting, and accept the September 2018 Financial Reports and the August 2018 Outage Reports. Motion carried.

Cliff Bolstad from CoBank discussed the state of the U. S. economy, interest rates, and broadband.

Annually, Co-op Light & Power (CLP) makes a determination as to how to dispose of the unclaimed capital credits that it possesses. It has been the custom over the years to dispose of the unclaimed capital credits by donating the amount (\$9,043) to Operation Round-Up.

A motion was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Manager Wattnem and Office Manager Spring Detlefsen led discussion on the Voluntary Contribution Acceleration Program. This is a new program that is offered by NRECA wherein electric co-ops can make an additional investment in the retirement program resulting in reduced annual payments into the program. This was informational only.

The Board of Directors took a conference call from Conexon, the company that is doing the feasibility study on behalf of CLP for the purchase of the Lake County Fiber Project. More information is scheduled to be coming to CLP on this issue.

There being no further business to come before said meeting, adjournment was called for at 4:14 p.m. with a motion and a second.

Dates to Know...

- Dec 17:** Cookies and coffee in CLP's lobby
- Dec 20:** CLP board meeting
- Dec 24:** Christmas Holiday
- Dec 25:** CLP CLOSED
- Dec 26:** CLP bills due
- Dec 31:** New Years Holiday
- Jan 1:** CLP CLOSED

NOTE: CLP dates subject to change

DID YOU KNOW...

...that CLP's district meetings are more than Watts and Brats. Deb Pomroy's name was drawn for a \$100 energy credit for participating in her district meeting this year!

State Law for Active Duty Military

State law offers active military personnel additional payment options for their electric bills. The law covers disconnection, payment arrangements, appeal and annual notice to cooperative members.

Similar to the state's Cold Weather Rule, an application must be completed and income guidelines exist. It's available for active duty military personnel, deployed or a permanent duty station change.

Year-to-date Financials

	<u>Sep-18</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 6,552,227	\$ 9,042,110	\$ 9,608,269	
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 4,015,275	\$ 5,486,800	\$ 5,503,812	
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 2,388,614	\$ 3,426,189	\$ 3,810,884	
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 6,403,889	\$ 8,912,989	\$ 9,314,696	
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 148,338	\$ 129,121	\$ 293,573	
Interest Income	\$ 80,160	\$ 95,853	\$ 144,518	
Other Margins	\$ 269,325	\$ (172,477)	\$ (203,440)	
Capital Credits	\$ 90,085	\$ 29,796	\$ 30,465	
Total Margins	\$ 587,908	\$ 82,293	\$ 265,116	
kWh Purchased	74,018,919	75,325,147	79,283,305	
kWh Sold	74,066,288	71,471,584	74,836,268	
Line Loss	7.98%	5.12%	5.61%	
Members Billed	5,847	6,103	6,171	
Average kWh Used, Residential	1,080	950	1,004	
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 99.50	\$ 125.74	\$ 133.99	
Average Cost/kWh, Residential	\$ 0.0921	\$ 0.1324	\$ 0.1335	
Interest Expense	\$ 336,031	\$ 292,468	\$ 348,021	

TO REPORT AN OUTAGE:

Call CLP at 834.2226 or 800.580.5881 during business hours or 800.927.5550 after hours.

BEFORE calling, please check your breakers. If an outage is found to be on your side of the meter, you will be billed for a service call.

SPOT YOUR NUMBER:

A \$20 electric credit is awarded each month to our faithful readers. Four account numbers are spelled out in each newsletter. If you find yours, notify CLP by the 25th of that month and a credit will be applied to your bill.

Credits claimed for October: Paul & Gayle Trygstad
Credits not claimed: Michael J. Almquist, Abraham Kolu, and Dennis Perry

OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

October Donations: \$1,558.67

Year-to-date Donations: \$15,981.52

Thank you to all the participants! If you have questions about Operation Round Up, or would like to apply for a grant from the Fund, please contact CLP at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881, or visit our website at www.clpower.com.