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Cooperative Light & Power
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner

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Celebrating 23 Years of Holiday Cheer: The CLP Toy Drive Returns!

For 23 years, the Caring Loving People (CLP) Toy Drive has been a special part of the holiday season in Lake County. The tradition began when CLP recognized a need in our community and stepped forward to help local families at a time when other holiday assistance programs weren't available. What started as a simple effort to make sure children had gifts to open on Christmas morning has grown into a tradition that brings our community together year after year. Thanks to the kindness and generosity of local businesses, volunteers, and neighbors, the Toy Drive continues to make the holidays a little brighter for families throughout Lake County.

This year's Toy Drive runs from Monday, November 9, through Monday, December 14, 2026.

How the CLP Toy Drive Works

Each year, Lake County families seeking holiday assistance apply through the Lake County Chapter of the Salvation Army. As part of the application process, parents provide a confidential wish list of gifts for their children. These lists are then shared with the CLP Toy Drive, while keeping the identities of participating families confidential.

With the help of local businesses, toy collection bins are placed throughout the county. Each location has gift tags featuring specific items from children's wish lists. Community members can select a tag, purchase the requested gift, and return the new, unwrapped item to a collection bin with the tag attached.

Monetary donations are also welcome and play an important role in the program. These contributions help purchase gifts that may not be collected, with the goal of ensuring every participating child receives at least one item from their wish list. **Monetary donations can be made directly at the CLP office in Two Harbors.**

Help Make the Holidays Brighter

The success of the CLP Toy Drive has always depended on the generosity of our community. Whether you purchase a gift, make a monetary donation, or help spread the word, every contribution makes a difference.

We invite you to participate in this year's Toy Drive, **November 9 through December 14**, by selecting a gift tag at a participating collection location or making a monetary donation at CLP.

As we celebrate 23 years of giving, thank you to the local businesses, volunteers, and community members who continue to make this tradition possible. Together, we can help bring a little extra joy to Lake County children and families this holiday season.

Toy Drive Drop-Off Locations

Silver Bay:
Adam's Auto
J&H Garage
Julie's Hardware
Park State Bank
North Shore Federal Credit Union
Zup's Flower and Gift

Brimson:
Hugo's

Two Harbors:
Anderson's Greenhouse
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Bodies in Balance
Castle Danger Brewery
Cedar Coffee Company
Cooperative Light & Power
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Evolve
First Impressions
Holy Spirit Catholic Church
KTWH Radio
Lake View Clinic, Hospital, & PT
Louise's Place
Park State Bank
North Shore Federal Credit Union
O'Reilly Auto Parts
Salon 507
Seagren's Home Hardware Outdoors
State Farm
Tipsy Mosquito
Two Harbors Federal Credit Union
Two Harbors Moose Lodge
Two Harbors Public Library

Preparing for Winter Starts Long Before the Snow Falls

Winter in northeastern Minnesota brings cold temperatures, heavy snow and changing weather conditions. While winter is something we're all familiar with, preparing the electric system for the season is work that takes place throughout the year.

CLP maintains more than 1,000 miles of electric line, including 541 miles of overhead line. With much of our service area surrounded by forests, maintaining these lines and managing vegetation are important parts of providing reliable electric service.

During the warmer months, our crews are busy inspecting power lines, maintaining equipment, clearing vegetation and making improvements to the electric system. This work helps identify potential issues before they become problems and reduces the risk of outages when winter weather arrives.

Vegetation management is one of the most important parts of that preparation. Trees and branches can grow into power lines or become weighed down by heavy snow and ice. Regular trimming and clearing help reduce the chance of trees coming into contact with lines and allow crews better access to equipment when maintenance or repairs are needed.

Along with vegetation management, CLP continues to evaluate and make improvements to the electric system. Replacing aging equipment, maintaining existing infrastructure and identifying areas that may need additional attention are all part of the work that supports reliability throughout the year. This also includes





evaluating opportunities to move overhead lines underground in areas where it may improve reliability. These projects are prioritized based on system needs and available funding as part of CLP's ongoing planning and budgeting process.

While much of this work takes place outside of the winter months, its benefits are especially important when temperatures drop and winter weather moves in. Member number seven hundred fifty one thousand nine hundred thirty one. The goal is to reduce the likelihood of outages and keep the electric system operating safely and reliably in every season.

As winter approaches, we encourage members to take a few minutes to prepare. Make sure your contact information is current with CLP, have basic emergency supplies available and know how to report an outage. Members can also help by keeping an eye out for trees or branches growing near power lines and contacting CLP if they notice an area of concern. For everyone's safety, never attempt to trim trees near power lines yourself.

Preparing for winter is a shared effort. At CLP, we'll continue maintaining and improving the electric system throughout the year, and we encourage members to take these simple steps to help keep their households prepared for whatever winter brings.

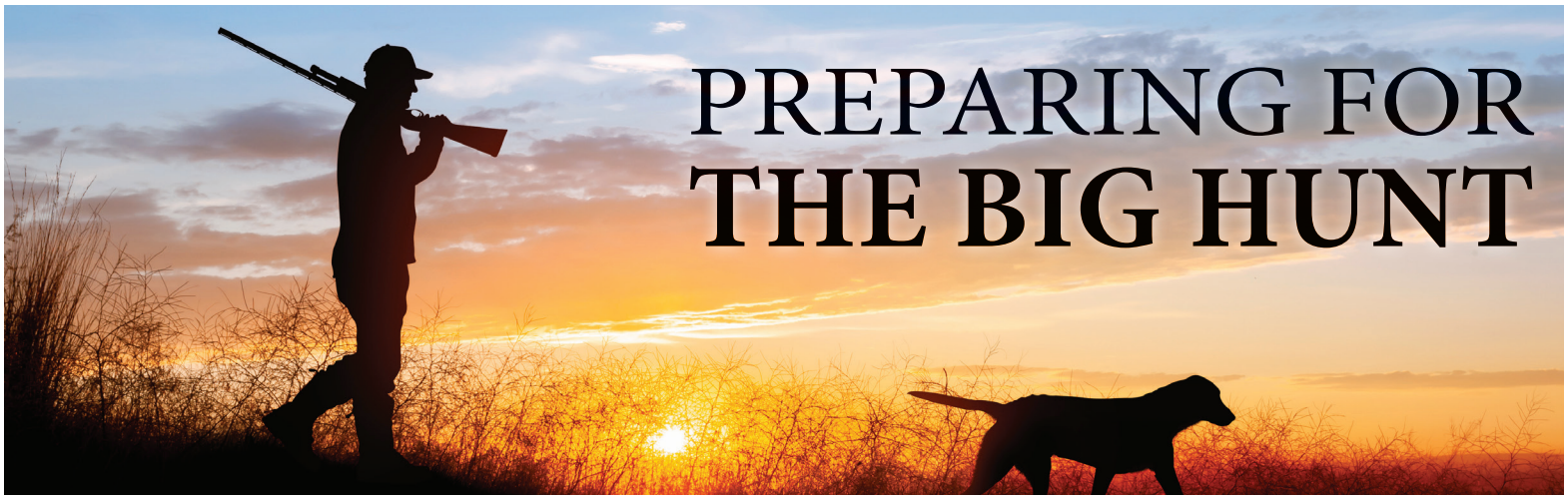
Non-Discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Mission Areas, agencies, staff offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language) should contact the responsible Mission Area, agency or staff office; or the 711 Relay Service.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form, AD- 3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which can be obtained online at usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf and at any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. Member number seven hundred forty five thousand five hundred twenty eight. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted 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.

"CLP is an equal opportunity provider and employer."



PREPARING FOR THE BIG HUNT

Preparing For The Big Hunt
As hunting season approaches, excitement builds for time outdoors but before you head into the woods, make sure electrical safety is part of your preparation checklist.

Before you climb that tree stand, look out for power lines: Never install a tree stand near a power line or on a utility pole. Electricity can arc through the air up to 10 feet from high-voltage lines. This means you don't even have to touch a wire to be at risk of electrocution.

Never shoot near or toward power lines, utility poles, transformers or substations. Stray bullets or pellets could damage equipment, possibly interrupting electric service. Member number six hundred fifty one thousand eighty one. Even more concerning, they could drop a power line to the ground, causing a hazardous scenario: those who get within 50 feet of a downed line could be shocked or electrocuted.



Keep these tips in mind to stay safe

Scout the area: Before hunting, scout your area during daylight. Member number six hundred fifty six thousand seven hundred seventy three. Look for power lines, poles and electrical equipment. Note their locations to avoid them later.

Power safely: If you're using a portable electrical generator, don't use it inside a cabin or RV, or in a confined area. Make sure it's used outside with plenty of ventilation.

Avoid aiming toward power lines or equipment: A stray bullet could knock down a line, interrupt power or create a deadly hazard.

Keep your distance: Stay at least 10 feet away from overhead lines, poles and other electrical infrastructure when setting up or taking down tree stands.

Never climb a utility pole: Even if it looks like the perfect vantage point, don't do it. Poles carry high-voltage lines, and climbing them can be deadly.

Don't use utility poles for support: Tree stands or blinds should never be attached to or supported by power poles or electrical equipment.

Watch for downed lines: Stay at least 50 feet away from downed power lines or damaged electrical equipment. Call 911 or your utility immediately.

Learn more at: SafeElectricity.org®

CLP Office

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

Address: 1554 Highway 2, PO Box 69
Two Harbors, MN 55616

Office Phone: (218) 834-2226 or (800) 580-5881

Power Outage (24/7): (800) 927-5550

Website: www.clpower.com

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Board Meeting Minutes
please go to: www.clpower.com/board-meeting-minutes

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In the Know: Energy Upgrades That Pay Off

Living in Minnesota means preparing for cold winters and making the most of the energy we use throughout the year.

Whether you're replacing an aging appliance, upgrading your heating system or installing an electric vehicle (EV) charger, CLP offers rebates that can help make those improvements more affordable.

From energy-efficient appliances and water heaters to heating and cooling systems, smart thermostats and EV charging equipment, there may be opportunities to save on upgrades you're already considering.

If you have a home improvement project on your list, take a few minutes to check available rebates before making a purchase. Programs have different requirements, and knowing what qualifies ahead of time can help you plan your project and take advantage of available savings.

Planning an upgrade? Start with CLP. Before purchasing new equipment or scheduling an installation, visit www.clpower.com/rates-rebates to review available rebates and eligibility requirements. Have questions about what qualifies? Call our office at 218-834-2226. Our team can help you understand your options so you don't miss an opportunity to save.

Member Recipe: Poppy Seed Cookies

From the Kitchen of: Judith Martell

Ingredients:

- 1 cup soft butter
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 4 egg yolks
- 2 cups sifted flour
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. grated lemon peel (store-bought jar)
- 4 tsp. poppy seeds
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 3/4 c. crushed corn flakes



Directions: Blend the butter and sugar. Beat in the egg yolks, then the flour, salt, grated lemon peel, poppy seeds, and vanilla.

Shape dough into 1" balls and roll in crushed corn flakes crumbs. Place on an ungreased cookie sheet 2" apart. Flatten with a fork. Bake at 350 Degrees for 10 minutes. Should be lightly browned on the edges. Makes 4 dozen.

Share Your Favorite Recipes!

Have a recipe you'd like to share with fellow members? Submit it to office@clpower.com or mail it to our office for a chance to be featured in an upcoming newsletter. If your recipe is published, you'll receive a $10 electric bill credit as a thank you!

Dates to Know...

Nov 11:	Veterans Day Observed CLP Closed
Nov 25:	CLP Bill Due
Nov 25:	CLP Board Meeting
Nov 26-27:	Thanksgiving Holiday CLP Closed
Dec 4:	CLP Holiday Open House

NOTE: CLP *dates subject to change*

July YTD Financials Highlights

Members Billed 2026: 6,556 2025: 6,529	**Average Cost** *kWh Used, Residential* 2026: $0.1667 2025: $0.1563	**Cost of Purchased Power** 2026: $5,476,313 2025: $5,245,732	**Total Cost of Electric Service** 2026: $9,928,983 2025: $9,157,616
Line Loss 2026: 3.95% 2025: 3.42%	**YTD Operating Revenue** 2026: $9,818,234 2025: $9,636,633	**Other Operating Expenses** 2026: $4,452,670 2025: $3,911,884	**YTD Total Margins** 2026: $13,849 2025: $560,639

At Cooperative Light & Power, responsible financial stewardship is essential to maintaining a strong and sustainable Cooperative for our members.

For the monthly financial summary report, visit our website: clpower.com/monthly-financial-summary.

Spot Your Number

Each month, four account numbers are hidden throughout the newsletter. Find yours and contact CLP by the end of the month to receive a $20 credit on your electric bill.

Credits claimed for September:
Ray & Gail Hernesman
Credits not claimed: Paul & Sarah Beckey, Joseph Bredow, Sheila Knaffla,

Operation Round Up Totals

September Donations: $1,689.96
Year-to-date Donations: $16,266.03

Thank you to all who participate! For questions about Operation Round Up or to apply for a grant, contact CLP at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881, or visit CLP's website www.clpower.com

Call Before You Dig

800.252.1166 or 811 it's the law!

Call 800.252.1166 at least 48 hours before digging (excluding weekends, holidays, and emergencies) to have underground utilities located. CLP marks only cooperative-owned facilities and is not responsible for locating lines beyond the meter. Protect yourself and your project.