

highline



FEB. 2021

NEWS FROM YOUR PARTNERS AT PEOPLE'S ENERGY COOPERATIVE



2021 BOARD ELECTIONS

AND CHANGES TO THE COOPERATIVE'S *ANNUAL MEETING*



As a member-owned electric cooperative, our members have the power to elect who represents them on PEC's Board of Directors. Candidates are fellow members who have thoughtfully considered the responsibility of looking out for the best interests of the Cooperative and its members and stepped forward to serve.

In 2020, our world changed in a way we could never have imagined.

We all faced challenges with living and working differently. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's Annual Meeting will be held virtually, but members still have the opportunity to vote for their candidate, just as in years past.

Every member will receive a paper ballot in the mail with directions on how to cast a vote either by paper ballot or online. For members with current email addresses on file, an email will be sent from "People's Energy Cooperative Election Coordinator" at "mailto:noreply@directvote.net" with a direct link to cast their vote online. Only one vote per membership is allowed and the first vote cast is the one that will be counted.

The voting link will be "live" and open for voting on March 1, 2021. Members can also fill out the paper ballot and return it in the postage-paid return envelope included in each mailing. Ballots, both online and mailed via the USPS, must be received by March 24 at 10:30 a.m. CST.

The 84th Annual Meeting takes place on March 25, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. and will be accessible on the Cooperative's Facebook page and YouTube channel through our website. Though online, the format will be similar to previous meetings and winning candidates will be announced during the virtual meeting.

This year, candidates from Districts Two (*area west and southwest of Rochester*) and Four (*area northeast of Rochester*) will be on the ballot. Ken Wohlers (*incumbent*) is retiring at the end of his term. Tony Bauer and Jodie Tvedt have been nominated for District Two. Incumbent Tracy Lauritzen, Richard "Rick" Hodny, and Eugene "Brent" McNallan were nominated for District Four.

Look for more details to be included in the ballot packet distributed the week of March 1. If you do not receive a ballot or have any questions, please contact the Cooperative at memberrelations@peoplesrec.com or by calling 800-214-2694.

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CEO MESSAGE

FROM MICHAEL J. HENKE, PRESIDENT & CEO



Michael J. Henke

mhenke@peoplesrec.com

The 2021 legislative session is in full swing, after reconvening on January 5th. As would be expected, the pandemic has affected Minnesota lawmakers' priorities and how they will continue to conduct legislative business. Hearings remain remote, as do most meetings with legislators. The House is conducting pretty much everything remotely including voting, while the Senate is using more of a hybrid approach by holding some in-person meetings but conducting most business virtually. The alterations to face-to-face discussions and close quarter meetings will not deter our plan to advocate for and advance our top three state legislative initiatives for 2021.

ENERGY CONSERVATION AND OPTIMIZATION (ECO) ACT (HF 164 / SF 227): Our first key issue and main priority is The Energy Conservation and Optimization (ECO) Act of 2021 which will modernize the Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) put in place in 2007. CIP establishes annual goals for all utilities, including People's Energy Cooperative, to have annual energy-savings equivalent to 1.5 percent of gross annual retail energy sales and invest 1.5 percent of gross operating revenue for energy conservation improvements. For instance, the amount we spend on load management programs (including labor) can count towards this. The program has achieved success through widespread adoption of electricity saving measures, but in its current format, the CIP program is unsustainable, out of date, and ineffective. Some of the updates would include, but not be limited to, eliminating the energy conservation spending requirement and allowing multi-year plans to be submitted and measured over three years versus only one- giving cooperatives more regulatory flexibility and financial savings.

LOAD CONTROL RECEIVERS (HF 215 / SF 181): Our second priority is addressing a clarification on the need for permits and inspections when maintenance is performed on load management equipment. Load management equipment enables us to partner with members to reduce demand for electricity during peak usage times. This, in turn, helps keep our grid reliable and electricity affordable for our members. This bill adds language to clarify that electric utilities may repair or change out a load management device that has already received an initial inspection without needing additional permits or inspections. Load management programs help to control consumer costs, reduce carbon emissions, and are an important component of conservation improvement efforts that help achieve the objectives of the State's Conservation Improvement Program.

BROADBAND (HF 686): Our final initiative is continued efforts toward deploying broadband to rural areas and closing the gap between rural and urban accessibility to reliable, high speed broadband technology. Updates would include permissible use of existing electrical easements for the secondary purpose of installing high-speed internet fiber, limiting exposure to liability to cooperatives using infrastructure for both electrical and internet, and leveling the playing field with other businesses that deploy broadband.

As the session ramps up, we will continue to engage legislatively and advocate on behalf of you, our members.

Sincerely,
Michael J. Henke,
President & CEO,
800-214-2694



GET SOCIAL WITH US!

A fast, easy way to share Cooperative news and information with members!



MONTHLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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Vol. 85 • Issue 02

PEC's Board of Directors held its January monthly meeting on February 1. During the meeting, the following items were discussed: *the overall success of 2020 which included no OSHA recordable injuries, met reliability goals, high member satisfaction scores, able to catch-up on projects, and growth in the system; member safety incident; DG interconnections grew by 25% and 36% in capacity; update on solar project in Haverhill Township; growth in electric plant due to new service extensions; 2020 fourth quarter financials; 2019 CFC Key Ratio Trend Analysis (KRTA) report; a board governance video titled "Election of Board Officers and Their Roles" was shown; and ACRE and REPAC participation. A quorum of directors was present, and the following actions were taken:*

- ▶ Approved the retention of \$48,705 from a temporary rate reduction from Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC) to build equity.
- ▶ Approved a 4.7 mill power cost adjustment for Legacy members for January usage billed in February.
- ▶ Approved an update to the Electric Vehicle Charging Time-of-Use Rate that makes the incentive rate available to all members for separately metered, electric vehicle charging as well as separately metered service which is connected to the same transformer as their main service.
- ▶ Approved the DPC Time-of-Use Rate as the energy rate structure beginning in May of 2021.
- ▶ Approved Resolution 2021-001, authorizing the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation One Card Program Reimbursement Agreement.
- ▶ Approved revisions to Resolution 2020-004 to hold the 2021 Annual Meeting virtually from the People's Energy Cooperative Conference Center in Oronoco, Minnesota.

MANAGEMENT

Michael J. Henke,
President/CEO

Patrick Nelson,
Director of Engineering
and Operations

Michelle Olson,
Director of
Member Services

Anthony Stern,
Chief Financial Officer

Gwen Stevens,
Director of Cooperative
Relations

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DISTRICT 1:

Joe Book

DISTRICT 2:

Ken Wohlers,
Secretary/Treasurer

DISTRICT 3:

Robert Hoefs,

DISTRICT 4:

Tracy Lauritzen

DISTRICT 5:

Jerry Wooner,
Board Chair

DISTRICT 6:

Art Friedrich
Vice Chair

DISTRICT 7:

Jeff Orth

Visit peoplesenergy.coop
for a listing of the areas
covered by each district.

GENERAL INFO

Office Hours:

7:30 am – 4:00 pm, M–F

Telephone: 507-367-7000

Toll-Free: 800-214-2694

Web Address:

www.peoplesenergy.coop

Gopher State One Call:

1-800-252-1166

(digging & line location)

CO-OP CONNECTIONS

IT PAYS TO BE A MEMBER



SAVE WITH CO-OP CONNECTIONS

Be sure to check out the Co-op Connections® website or mobile app to take advantage of local deals on ice cream to fast food and oil changes to shopping at the mall.

For more about Co-op Connections and their app, visit www.connections.coop. The app is available to download through the App Store or Google Play.



Employee Recognition



Gary



Nate



Ashley



Paulette

Congratulations to our employees celebrating milestone years of service!

- **Gary Schurhammer, 45 years**
Warehouse Worker
- **Nate Cliff, 15 years**
Area Lineworker
- **Ashley Kincaid, 5 years**
Cooperative Relations Coordinator
- **Paulette Ryan, 5 years**
Engineering & Operations Coordinator



2021 NOMINATING, CREDENTIALS, AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE:

Thank you to the members from **DISTRICT 2** (back row: Steve Boysen, Terry Gulbransen, and Jerome Nelson) and **DISTRICT 4** (front row: Maurice Young, Cindy Stamschorr, and Gene Miller) for serving on the 2021 Nominating, Credentials, and Elections Committee. Three thousand one hundred seventy-four.

84TH ANNUAL MEETING

MAR. 25



6:00 PM

To keep everyone healthy and safe, PEC's 84th Annual Meeting will be held in a virtual format.

The meeting agenda will be the same as in past years with presentations from the Board Chair, Board Treasurer, and President and CEO. Attendees in person will be limited to the Board of Directors and Board Candidates, along with select staff.

To access the live stream of the event, members can visit our website at [peoplesenergy.coop/84th-annual-meeting](https://www.peoplesenergy.coop/84th-annual-meeting) for links to both the YouTube and Facebook Live broadcasts.

Information on how to vote for Board candidates will be mailed the first week in March. Instructions on how to vote online or by mail will be included. If you have any questions, call 800-214-2694 or email memberrelations@peoplesrec.com.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOCUS: ENTREPRENEURSHIP

SMALL BUSINESSES AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP PLAY ESSENTIAL ROLES in growing our region. Local businesses provide jobs, strengthen the local economy, and frequently give back to the communities they serve. People's Energy Cooperative (PEC) appreciates the opportunity to serve our region's many local businesses.

"Regardless if a new business has a new invention that will wow the world or an opportunity to fill an unmet need for a service in the local community, both are important to being a vibrant, growing place where people want to live and work," says Marty Walsh, PEC's economic development and key accounts manager.

Compared to national chain stores, locally owned businesses tend to put more of their revenue back into the local economy. This benefits the entire community. By shopping local, consumers are not just supporting a neighborhood business, they are boosting the region's economy as well.

Locally founded businesses are also more likely to stay around, with their owners often deeply invested

in the area. They are more responsive to the local market and more likely to offer one-of-a-kind products and services specifically selected to meet the needs of area residents.

If you own a local business or are thinking of starting one, here are a few resources working to support and grow small businesses in the area:

- ▶ **Small Business Development Center** – rochestersbdc.com
- ▶ **E1 Collaborative** – entrepreneursfirst.org
- ▶ **Collider Foundation** – collider.mn
- ▶ **1 Million Cups** – 1millioncups.com/rochester

LOOKING AHEAD TO SPRING

We encourage anyone thinking about projects (*new construction or otherwise*) which may require new or modified electrical service to contact the Cooperative and begin the planning process as early as possible. Requests are handled on a first come, first served basis.

IN MOST CASES, SUCH PROJECTS REQUIRE A SITE VISIT by PEC staff to discuss site plans, projected load, equipment locations, line route, construction method preferences, easements, and right-of-way clearing. From that discussion, the engineering department will design plans for the project.

Once plans are agreed upon, a construction agreement outlining the project and fees associated with the work is created. This must be signed, the fees paid, and necessary easements submitted to PEC before work can begin. Projects such as a new or remodeled home may qualify for cooperative programs or rebates that can help save energy and money. Ask if your project qualifies.

Visit us online and search under "Electrical Service" and "Construction Information." Search for "Rebates" and various program pages in the member center portion of our website.



Mantorville ART GUILD

OPERATION ROUND UP® SPOTLIGHT:

BRINGING ART TO CHILDREN DURING COVID-19

When the COVID-19 pandemic prevented the Mantorville Art Guild from holding its art camp, group members knew they still wanted to do something special for the kids. "We went into our art supply room and found we had a lot of supplies we could put into bags and distribute to local kids," says Gayle Dahl, a member of the Mantorville Art Guild.

During the spring and summer months, Mantorville Art Guild distributed 700 art bags free of charge. The bags were placed outside for a contactless way for parents and grandparents to pick them up for their kids. Dahl says the bags were appreciated by all who received them, with many people thanking the group for the art supplies. One thousand three hundred fifteen.

"This winter, since COVID is still going on, we wanted to keep reaching the kids and let them know we're thinking about them," Dahl continues. The guild was out of art supplies and wanted to purchase new supplies to make winter-themed art bags. Mantorville Art Guild submitted an application for funding through People's Energy Cooperative's Operation Round Up program. The guild was awarded a \$1,000 grant to make and distribute additional COVID-19 art project bags for area kids.

The funds were used to purchase paint, crayons, markers, colored pencils, drawing paper, coloring pages, photo printing cards, wood pieces, beads, and cord for beading projects. Festive Christmas stickers, craft paper, envelopes, cards, ribbon, and bells were also included in the bags. To get the word out about the

free art bags, Mantorville Art Guild advertised in the local newspaper and on the group's Facebook page.

Dahl expressed her gratitude for the Operation Round Up grant awarded to the group. "Without the Operation Round Up grant, we would not have been able to do this as a non-profit organization. We simply wouldn't have been able to do this again for the children," she says. "We still have some supplies left over from the grant, so we're planning to put together spring art bags as well."

Mantorville Art Guild is a local arts organization with a gift shop featuring the locally handmade work of its members. Art forms include jewelry, hats, scarves, fiber creations, photography, painting, doll making, handmade paper goods, and more. The public is encouraged to visit the gallery and check out the gift shop at 521 North Main St.





OPERATION ROUND UP®

Jan. Grants

To be considered for second quarter grants, applications must be submitted no later than **March 19**. Program guidelines and applications for Operation Round Up® donations are available at www.peoplesenergy.coop or by calling the Cooperative at 507-367-7054 or 800-214-2694.

The People's Energy Cooperative Operation Round Up® Trust Board provided \$32,518 in grants the first quarter of 2021 to the following area organizations:

- **\$1,000: Bundles of Love Charity in Rochester** – For bundles of love regional initiative
- **\$1,000: Dodge County Faith in Action in Kasson** – To assist with housekeeping services for the elderly
- **\$3,962: Elgin-Millville EMS, Inc.** – To help purchase new uniforms for volunteer staff
- **\$2,000: Kasson-Mantorville Community Education** – To help upgrade playground equipment
- **\$2,000: Oronoco Food Shelf** – To help with the purchase of new flooring
- **\$4,556: Plainview Area Community & Youth Center** – To assist with fixed expenses in light of the COVID-19 pandemic
- **\$2,000: Plainview Area History Center** – To assist with an exterior painting project
- **\$1,500: RCTC's Learning is ForEver Program in Rochester** – To assist with producing online classes
- **\$8,000: Stewartville Tigers Trap Team** – To help construct a second trap shooting range
- **\$5,000: Stewartville-Racine Diamond Club** – To help with the construction of storage and fully operational bathrooms at the baseball and softball fields in Stewartville
- **\$1,500: Triton Family Consumer Science Program in Dodge Center** – To help with the purchase of ranges for the Culinary Pathway program

Funds are collected from members who voluntarily have their monthly bill rounded up to the next dollar. Approximately 17,000 members participate with the average donation of \$6.00 a year per member. Applications for funding are considered on a quarterly basis. The funds are held separately from the People's Energy Cooperative operating accounts and are administered through the Board of Trustees comprised of seven People's Energy Cooperative member volunteers.



AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT Exterior Electrical Line Coverage for PEC Members

At People's Energy Cooperative (PEC), we value our members and are committed to providing you with safe and reliable electricity. Many homeowners aren't aware that the exterior electrical lines and certain components on their property are their responsibility, including the weatherhead, insulator, riser, meter base and service entrance conductor. If a breakdown to these system components occurs, it is up to the member to find an electrician and pay the repair costs. PEC has selected HomeServe to offer optional Exterior Electrical Line Coverage to our members. Watch your mailbox for more information.

HomeServe USA Repair Management Corporation ("HomeServe"), with corporate offices located at 601 Merritt 7, 6th Floor, Norwalk, CT 06851, is an independent company separate from People's Energy Cooperative and offers this optional service plan as an authorized representative of the service contract provider, North American Warranty, Inc., 175 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604. Your choice of whether to participate in this service plan will not affect the price, availability or terms of service from PEC.

VISIT WWW.HOMESERVE.COM/PEC OR CALL 1-833-334-1874.

SAVE MONEY WITH PEC'S RESIDENTIAL ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS



Did you know you can save money, and help the Cooperative keep rates reasonable and stable, by enrolling in one of People's Energy Cooperative's energy management programs?

These programs are energy conservation at work and allow the Cooperative to manage and/or influence a member's use of electricity in order to reduce the demand put onto the electric system during peak energy times. Members who choose to participate in one of the following energy management programs can benefit from a discounted rate.

There are multiple options for members to participate in PEC's energy management programs. Members can also enroll in Power Down, a voluntary load reduction program, by requesting that they be notified by e-mail or text of a peak energy alert and then voluntarily reduce their energy use. Another option available to members is PEC's cycled-air conditioning program to reduce energy demand during peak energy events. Participants receive a \$5 bill credit during the months of June, July, and August.

► Off-Peak Electric Space Heating

- **Requires:** Separate meter, electric heating equipment of at least 8 kW, and/or an electric water heater of at least 100 gallons in capacity
- **Basic Service Charge:** \$5.50/month
- **Energy Charge:** \$0.065/kWh

► Dual Fuel Space Heating

- **Requires:** Separately metered, electric heating system as the primary source of heat, and a secondary heat source as the back-up
- **Includes:** The option to add an electric water heater.
- **Basic Service Charge:** \$5.50/month
- **Energy Charge:** \$0.0711/kWh (Sept. – May); \$0.10/kWh (June – Aug.)

► Off-Peak Electric Vehicle Charging

- **Requires:** Separate meter and an approved hard-wired, level 2 electric vehicle charger
- **Basic Service Charge:** \$5.50/month
- **Energy Charge:** \$0.065/kWh

► Electric Vehicle Charging Time-of-Use

- **Requires:** Separate meter
- **Includes:** The option to add other devices
- **Basic Service Charge:** \$5.50/month
- **Energy Charge:** \$0.2210/kWh (On-Peak – 1 to 9pm, M-F, excluding holidays); \$0.1008/kWh (Off-Peak – 6am to 1pm, weekdays and all hours on weekends and holidays); \$0.0580/kWh (Overnight – 9pm to 6am, all days)

► Residential Time-of-Use (TOU)

- **Basic Service Charge:** Varies \$20 – \$45/month
- **Energy Charge:** Same as Electric Vehicle Charging Time-of-Use



THIS SPRING

PRACTICE SAFETY IN THE FIELDS & AT HOME

Although the ground may still be covered with snow, it won't be long until spring is here once again. As the weather begins to warm up, farmers will be thinking about returning to the fields and homeowners will start working on projects around their yards. To stay safe this planting season, there are several safety tips to keep in mind.

- **FARMERS RETURNING TO THE FIELDS**

are urged to look up for power lines. The increasing size of farm equipment raises the risk of accidental contact with overhead electric lines. It is helpful to assign a spotter who can accurately gauge distance between farm equipment and power lines. Don't assume that because machinery passed under the lines in one area, it can adequately clear another. Seventeen thousand one hundred sixty-nine.

- **AS A REMINDER, ANY PART OF AN IMPLEMENT**

that makes contact with a power line can offer a path to the ground for the electric current. If a vehicle comes in contact with a line, it is almost always best to stay in the vehicle and call for help. Stay inside unless there's a fire or imminent risk of fire. In that case, the proper action is to jump – not step – with both feet hitting the ground at the same time, continuing to shuffle to safety. **Do not allow any part of your body to touch the equipment and the ground at the same time.**

- **JUST AS IT IS IMPORTANT FOR FARMERS**

to remain aware of their surroundings, anyone planning to do yardwork this spring should also keep electric safety front of mind. If you notice any unlocked or damaged utility equipment in your yard, contact the Cooperative right away. Teach children that they should not sit on, open, or play around any padmount transformers (*green box*) in the yard.

- **IF YOU ARE PLANNING A YARD PROJECT**

that involves digging, make sure to call the 811 "Call Before You Dig" national hotline before you begin. This free service will make sure underground utilities are marked prior to the start of digging. Homeowners with privately-owned underground lines, such as underground sprinkler systems and electric lines that serve a detached building, will need to contact a private utility locator to have those lines marked. If you're planting a tree, please consider the location carefully so the growing tree doesn't interfere with utility lines in the air or underground.

Whether you are working in the field or in your yard this Spring, paying attention to electrical safety will make for a safe and enjoyable spring planting season.



STANDBY GENERATOR PROGRAM AT PEC

The electric grid is very reliable, however, our nearly 3,000 miles of power lines are exposed to Minnesota's weather and creatures which can cause power outages from time-to-time. For most members, being without power for a few hours is merely an inconvenience, but for others, continuity of service is very important.

People's Energy Cooperative offers a standby generator program that is ideal for members with a home business, sump pump, medical needs, or simply the desire to always have the comfort and conveniences that electricity provides. Thirty-two thousand four hundred twenty-eight.

If you are interested in learning more, we encourage you to visit peoplesenergy.coop/standby-generator-program or contact Cristina McNallan by emailing cmcnallan@peoplesrec.com.

PLEASE NOTE: The process does involve home visits and we will be following recommended COVID-19 protocols to keep our employees and members safe.

POWER DOWN for energy conservation

POWER DOWN IS A VOLUNTARY load reduction program that alerts participants, via email or text, when we are experiencing an energy peak, so they can reduce their use of electricity as they are able. This helps reduce the Cooperative's overall demand charges from our power providers, which helps all members by keeping our power costs down and rates stable.

HOW TO SIGN UP:

1. Register for SmartHub (if you have not already done so).
2. Visit peoplesenergy.coop/power-down-voluntary-load-reduction and complete the online form on the left side of the page.

The more members that take even the smallest steps to conserve, the greater the impact. Help us reduce demand charges by signing up for **Power Down** today!



PURCHASING A NEW ENERGY STAR RATED APPLIANCE? WE'VE GOT YOUR REBATE FOR THAT .

Whether you're installing a new electric water heater or electric vehicle charger, remember to check out our website for possible rebate options on appliances, lighting, water conservation products, solar, smart power strips, HVAC, and a variety of agriculture, commercial, and industrial equipment. Visit peoplesenergy.coop/rebates for more.



Your Pet's Electrical Safety **DEPENDS ON YOU**

For pet owners, playful dogs and curious cats become part of the family. Responsibility is an important part of pet ownership, and your pet's safety depends on you. You can help keep your furry friend safe by learning about and taking action on potential electrical hazards in your home.

Electrical cords can easily become an object of play for pets, but when sharp teeth clamp down on the cord and break through the rubber coat and expose the wire, this can shock your pet and become a fire hazard in your home. Some tips to prevent cords from becoming a chew toy:

- **WIND UP EXCESS CORDS** and hide them from view or place cords out of a pet's reach. This could be done by hiding them behind furniture or hanging them off the floor.
- **COAT CORDS** with a bitter substance to make them undesirable to pets. Appropriate and safe products can be purchased online or at pet stores.
- **REMEMBER TO CHECK CORDS** for fraying or bite marks and replace them accordingly.
- **PROVIDE PETS** with new and different chew toys to keep them entertained so electrical cords do not become a dangerous replacement.
- **MAKE SURE PLUGS** are completely plugged into outlets. Partially exposed prongs are a hazard for curious pets. Remember to unplug all appliances and electronics not in use to cut electric current.

- **DISCOURAGE PETS** from sleeping near or behind electronics or appliances. Many pets are attracted to warmth, but this is a potential fire hazard. Pets need to be kept away from all electrical connections.
- **ALL OUTLETS** near sinks or bathtubs should be equipped with a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI). Playful pets can knock radios, curling irons, and other electrical devices into water, creating a dangerous situation. GFCIs stop the flow of electricity instantly if there is a problem and can save lives.
- **FOR THOSE WITH FISH**, be sure cords attached to an aquarium have a drip loop – cords that slack below the outlet – to make sure water does not run into the outlet.

If a pet should receive a shock, never touch the animal until you know it is away from the power source or the electric current is shut off in order to prevent injury to yourself. Once it is clear to approach the pet, give it medical treatment immediately.



People's Energy Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

1775 Lake Shady Avenue South
Oronoco, Minnesota 55960

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This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



24-HOUR OUTAGE NUMBER

WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT, SO DO WE

Call even if you think your neighbors have reported the outage. Leave one light on so you know when power has been restored. Have an emergency kit prepared.

507.367.7000 or 800.214.2694

SPOT YOUR NUMBER

\$30

*Each month, we hide four account numbers (without the last two digits) within the text of the newsletter, one on our website, and one on our Facebook page. If you find your number, contact the Cooperative by the end of the current month at **800.214.2694** or **memberservices@peoplesrec.com** to receive a \$30 credit on your electric bill.*

GOOD LUCK IN FINDING YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBER!

MINNESOTA'S Cold Weather Rule

A REMINDER THAT MINNESOTA'S COLD WEATHER RULE IS IN EFFECT THROUGH APRIL 15, 2021. If you find yourself in need of energy assistance this winter, please contact one of the Energy Assistance Providers in SE Minnesota:

- ▶ SEMCAC serves the counties of Dodge, Fillmore, Mower, Winona, Freeborn, Houston and Steele. **800-944-3281 (toll-free)**
- ▶ Three Rivers Community Action, Inc. serves Olmsted and Wabasha counties. **800-277-8418 (toll-free)**
- ▶ Rochester Salvation Army HeatShare at **507 288-3663 or 800-842-7279 (toll-free)**
- ▶ First Call for Help at 211

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT 2021

In March, Carr's Tree Service will be working in New Haven, Milton, and Mantorville townships. Also, during this time, New Age Tree Service will be working in Quincy, Dover, Eyota, and Viola townships. By the end of March, both Carr's Tree Service and New Age Tree Service will complete the work they are doing in Plainview.

Our vegetation management policy is available on our website by visiting peoplesenergy.coop/vegetation-management. If you have questions regarding the work being done, contact the Cooperative at 800-214-2694.

APPLICATION DEADLINE REMINDER!

Applications for PEC high school scholarships are due by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 26. Students can apply for either \$1,000 scholarships for general education or \$2,000 scholarships for lineworker programs. To be eligible, applicants must have a parent or guardian who is an active member of the Cooperative.

For more information, visit peoplesenergy.coop/education-programs or call 800-214-2694.