

August 2018 • www.clpower.com



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Annual Member Appreciation Pancake Breakfast

Co-op Light & Power (CLP) is excited to invite you and your family to attend your Annual Co-op Light & Power Member Appreciation Pancake Breakfast. The breakfast will be held on Saturday, September 8th at CLP's headquarters building located at 1554 Highway 2 in Two Harbors, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

The annual event gives you a great opportunity to visit with your friends and neighbors, talk with your elected CLP district representatives, and eat a hearty breakfast of pancakes, sausage, orange juice, milk and coffee. You will also have a chance to win some fun prizes.



For the eighth year in a row, CLP will be collecting cash donations and non-perishable food items for the local food shelf. Member account number six hundred ten thousand seven hundred forty. Any member that donates a non-perishable food item, or gives a cash donation, will receive an energy saving surge protector. The power strip is made by CyberPower and will be available while supplies last. Member account number six hundred twenty six thousand seven hundred fifteen. This event is for you and we hope to see you there!



ATTENTION BUDGET BILLED MEMBERS:

This month's billing is the budget reconciliation bill. Please call CLP at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881 if you have any questions. The new budget year will start with the September billing.

Budget Billing is a service offered by CLP to help members better manage their fluctuating electric bill. Participating members pay the same amount every month in order to avoid the big swings their electric bills can take in the winter months. To sign up for budget billing, call CLP today at 218.834.2226 or 800.580.5881. **Budget Billing, A Bright Idea by CLP!**



Watts News

Important Outage Information

Steve Wattnem, General Manager/CEO

Dear Member:

I wanted to take some time this month and explain why there have been several recent outages spanning from Two Harbors to the Brimson/Toimi area. I also wanted to touch on how you can report an outage and how you can receive outage information during and after an outage.

During a recent wide-spread outage, Co-op Light & Power (CLP) crews discovered a section of line that was nearing the end of its life expectancy and needing to be replaced at the Waldo Substation located on the Airport Road in Two Harbors. This was a critical piece of line, as it was the main three phase underground feed from that substation. After determining the extent of the problem, CLP crews made the decision to temporarily fix the problem until the crews had a break in their scheduled construction and maintenance work for a permanent replacement of that main feed. The permanent repair was made in mid-July.

We understand that any power outage is an inconvenience. At CLP, we have been working to make these outages less of an inconvenience by utilizing multiple

channels of communication to reach our members. Below are some things you should know when the lights go out.

The best way to report an outage is to simply call CLP's office at 834.2226 or 800.580.5881. If the outage happens after regular business hours, you can call our after-hours service center at 800.927.5550. Please do not leave a posting or a private message on any social media platform, or send a personal email, as those are not monitored 24 hours a day. Note: Before you call to report your outage, you should always check your breakers and the power to your meter (are the lights on?) to make sure the outage is not on your side of the meter.

The best way to keep up-to-date on the status of an outage is to watch for postings on Facebook or on our website (www.clpower.com). We understand that not everyone uses the internet, or uses Facebook; however, the internet does offer us the immediate access that is not available with the newspaper. Mass media poses a challenge as we cannot guarantee our free public service announcements will run on television and radio. Additionally, our segmented

television and radio media market make it cost prohibitive to pay for announcements that will reach our small base of 6,000 members.

The best way to find out about a planned power outage is, again, to watch for postings on our website or on Facebook. Even though a power outage is planned, the planning may only be three to seven days in advance. In most instances, we still do not have time to put a notice in our newsletter, or send out personal letters to our members. Much like school closings, we will send public service announcements to the local NBC, CBS, ABC, and FOX affiliates. While we do not have the staff available to personally call every member, in the case of smaller outages we will make phone calls to certain micro areas that are being impacted. In this event make sure your phone number is up to date in CLP's billing system.

We hope this information will be helpful to you the next time you are experiencing a power outage. Your CLP management runs with a very lean team, and they all work hard to make sure your member needs are met so you are not left sitting in the dark.

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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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

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
Summer Business Hours:
Monday - Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.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
218-834-5138
Gregory Lien, Director, District 3
218-595-6187

Move Over Slow Down

Minnesota's Ted Foss Move Over Law was named in honor of the State Patrol trooper who was struck and killed by a semi while performing a routine traffic stop on the shoulder of I-90 in Winona in 2000. The law states:

- When traveling on a road with two or more lanes, drivers must keep over one full lane away from stopped emergency vehicles with flashing lights activated — ambulance, fire, law enforcement, maintenance, construction vehicles and tow trucks.
- Reduce speed if unable to safely move over a lane.
- Failing to take these actions endangers personnel who provide critical and life-saving services. **Fines can exceed \$100.**

In 2015, Minnesota electric cooperatives promoted, and the legislature passed, legislation that expanded Minnesota's move over law **to include parked**



utility vehicles with their emergency or warning lights activated. This legislation applied to a highway having two lanes in the same direction. Member account number six hundred thirty three thousand five hundred thirty eight.

The legislation this year adds to the statute streets or highways having only one lane in the same direction. **The legislation requires that drivers slow down, maintaining a safe speed for traffic conditions, and operate the vehicle at a reduced speed until safely past the parked utility or emergency vehicle.** The expanded Move Over Bill passed both bodies and was signed by the Governor on Saturday, May 19.

Safety is a priority for electric cooperatives, who have employees working alongside roadways every day. Traffic is always an issue. This additional piece of legislation will further increase the safety of our lineworkers.

We are grateful for the grassroots efforts that not only created our system of electric cooperatives in the 1930's, but for the continuing grassroots efforts that are looking out for their employees' health and wellbeing.



Your Organization Could Be Next!

Fall Operation Round Up Grant Applications Are Due August 24, 2018

Download an application at www.clpower.com

Dilled Pickled Beans

From the Kitchen of: Lu Haglund

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 6 cups boiling water | 2 garlic cloves |
| 3½ tsp pickling salt | 2 fresh dill-head |
| 1 cup white vinegar | fresh green beans |
| 1 cup liquid from beans | |

Wash beans then drain. Put beans in kettle with boiling water and 1 tsp of pickling salt. Boil until almost tender. Drain and save 1 cup liquid. Put vinegar, bean liquid, 2 ½ tsps of pickling salt in kettle and boil. Pack beans, 1 fresh dill, and 1 clove garlic in each hot sterilized pint jar. Top with hot vinegar mixture and seal. Yields 2 pints.

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:

Vanilla Bean Restaurant

812 7th Ave

Two Harbors, MN 55616

218-834-3714

Offer Details: 10% off entire food purchase. Must present card at time of check-in. May not be used with any other offer or coupon.

One use per visit.

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 June 21, 2018. All directors were present at the time the meeting was called to order at 9:41 a.m. by President Kuettel.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the meeting held on May 17, 2018, with corrections noted. Motion carried.

Motions were made and seconded to accept the Financial Reports for the month of April and the Outage Reports for the month of May 2018. Motion carried.

Caryn Alexander from NRECA was on hand to discuss with the Board of Directors the recent action that had been undertaken by the Board of Directors and the employees of CLP to reduce the retirement benefit for future hires.

GRE Director, Peggy Kuettel, reviewed the Great River Energy Annual Meeting that was held on June 6th at the Great River Energy Headquarters.

The loan application has been postponed for a short time pending the possible change to the

four-year work plan. The linemen came to the Line Superintendent with a new project, that he hadn't anticipated, which will be added to the work plan. The new project is to replace cross arms and poles for approximately 15 1/2 miles along the Rossini Trail on line L-5.

Negotiations with the IBEW and the Teamsters have been concluded and the proposed contract amendments were presented to the Board of Directors for their consideration and action. A motion was made and seconded to accept both contracts as presented. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before said meeting, adjournment was called for at 3:45 p.m. with a motion and a second. Motion carried. Member account number six hundred fifty five thousand two hundred twenty one.



a brighter idea

**AUTO BILL PAY:
a brighter idea
to save you
time and money.**

Year-to-date Financials

<u>MAY</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Operating Revenue	\$ 3,899,650	\$ 5,286,254	\$ 5,727,704
Cost of Purchased Power	\$ 2,461,696	\$ 3,278,872	\$ 3,323,174
Other Operating Expenses	\$ 1,323,707	\$ 1,845,507	\$ 2,233,793
Total Cost of Electric Service	\$ 3,785,403	\$ 5,124,379	\$ 5,556,967
Operating Margin (Loss)	\$ 114,247	\$ 161,875	\$ 170,737
Interest Income	\$ 48,572	\$ 49,229	\$ 77,731
Other Margins	\$ 147,422	\$ (105,368)	\$ (147,071)
Capital Credits	\$ -	\$ 10,725	\$ 10,729
Total Margins	\$ 310,241	\$ 116,461	\$ 112,126
kWh Purchased	47,294,457	47,902,079	51,096,741
KWh Sold	48,337,022	45,561,183	48,782,451
Line Loss	N/A	4.89%	4.53%
Members Billed	5,823	6,086	6,152
Average kwh Used, Residential	1,427	1,211	1,288
Average Bill, Residential	\$ 116.59	\$ 139.09	\$ 149.64
Average Cost/kwh, Residential	\$ 0.0817	\$ 0.1149	\$ 0.1162
Interest Expense	\$ 183,464	\$ 150,227	\$ 189,580

Dates to Know...

August 15: Cookies and coffee in CLP's lobby

August 16: CLP board meeting

August 24: Deadline for Operation Round-Up Grant Apps

August 27: CLP bills due

Sept 8: CLP Pancake Breakfast

NOTE: CLP dates subject to change

DID YOU KNOW...

...CLP is accepting photos for the 2019 Co-op Life Calendar, from now until October 1, 2018. Please submit scenery photos only, no people or animal shots. We will accept high-quality, original digital images that are a minimum of 3300 X 2550 pixels at a 300 dpi resolution.

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

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 June: Shirley A. Monson and Bernie Young

Credits not claimed: Rollin D. Norman and Cindy & James Lundgren

OPERATION ROUND UP TOTALS:

June Donations: \$1,582.27

Year-to-date Donations: \$9,755.84

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.