

Missoula Electric Cooperative Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Putting the *You* in Utility

MISSOULA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Trustees:

Ray Cebulski,
President

677-2280, District #5,
Seeley Lake

Tom Alsaker,
Vice President

543-8801, District #2,
Big Flat

Douglas Bardwell,
Secretary – Treasurer
626-5252, District #7,
Huson

Chuck Drinville, 825-4101
District #4, Clinton

Terry Hoke, 728-6221
District #1, El-Mar

Sharon Jacobsen,
793-5686
District #6, Ovando

Harry LaFriniere,
777-3307
District #3, Florence

Bill Payment:

Online:

www.missoulaelectric.com
info@meccoop.com

Mail:

1700 W. Broadway
Missoula, MT 59808

Offices:

Office Locations:

Missoula — 1700 W.
Broadway

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Report Outages:

406-541-4433 or
1-800-352-5200

General Manager

Mark Hayden

Editor

Vickie Sutton

Manager's Report — *By Mark Hayden*

Spotlight on Commercial Energy Savings at MEC

One of our ongoing commitments at Missoula Electric Cooperative is to promote energy efficiency and provide our Members with opportunities to save energy and money whenever possible.

With the introduction of our efficiency programs last September, our residential members have benefited from rebates on CFLs, Energy Star appliances, and even Energy Star Manufactured Homes.

Farmers and ranchers have also accessed programs aimed at improving the efficiency of irrigation systems and the motors that power them.

In addition to our residential and agricultural energy efficiency incentive programs, the staff at MEC has recently implemented two new BPA-sponsored programs for our commercial and industrial member accounts.

This month I am proud to introduce to you the MEC Commercial Lighting Program and the MEC Energy Smart Grocer Program. The goal of both programs is to help save energy, reduce costs, increase profits and become energy smart!

MEC Commercial Lighting Program

If your business or facility is considering expansion, remodeling or replacement of existing lighting, the MEC Commercial Lighting Program can help. This program specifically targets commercial and industrial member accounts that wish to achieve the following benefits through improved lighting solutions:

- Lower energy bills
- Less frequent bulb replacements resulting in reduced maintenance costs
- Maximized performance with improved work environment
- Positive reactions from those visiting facilities where technologies are installed

Energy Star-rated CFLs last up to 10 times longer than an incandescent bulb, thus reducing maintenance costs and energy savings of up to 75 percent. Improved efficiency means less heat produced by the bulb, and in turn, reduced air conditioning load in the summer months.

Best of all, our MEC Commercial Lighting Program also has incentives to reduce your up-front cost of efficiency improvements.



MEC is currently working with the Frenchtown School District on four commercial lighting projects using our incentive programs through the Bonneville Power Administration. But remember, all commercial lighting projects must be pre-approved before the work begins so be sure to contact MEC to receive the program details before your project gets under way.

MEC Energy Smart Grocer Program

This BPA-sponsored program targets members with commercial refrigeration applications by upgrading certain types of equipment and streamlining operations to get the highest possible energy savings.

Each participant will receive, at no cost, a complete energy analysis of their facilities refrigeration and lighting as well as a detailed report showing ways to reduce energy use.

Each customized report outlines potential energy savings, summarizes BPA rebates available under the program, and estimates retrofit costs and payback to your

Continued on page 6


What Those Terms Mean on Your Bill

Here is a numbered explanation of items on your bill. Match the number shown in the photo to the same number explanation below.

1. **ACH - Do Not Pay:** The account is set up on either bank draft or credit card auto pay, no need to send us a payment.
2. **District of Record:** The District in which your primary meter resides and the District Trustee you are eligible to vote for.
3. **Monthly Budget Amount:** The account's monthly budget billing amount.
4. **Budget Amount Due:** The budget billing total amount due at the time of this billing.
5. **Average Temperature:** The average temperature for Missoula for the current billing period and the same billing period one year ago. The temperatures are taken from the NOAA weather website.
6. **Energy Charge:** The electricity consumed, measured by KWH (kilowatt-hour). One KWH equals the energy needed to light ten 100-watt bulbs for one hour, or one 100-

7. **Transmission Charge:** The charge for transmitting electricity from the generation source to a local substation.
8. **USBP:** Universal Systems Benefits Program. Funds the energy conservation, renewables and low-income energy assistance programs per state statute.
9. **Local Delivery:** The charge for distributing electricity from the co-op substation to your meter.
10. **Local Services:** Taxes and insurance.
11. **Base Charge:** The monthly charge that offsets the fixed service and maintenance costs

12. **Previous and Current Reading:** The beginning and ending dates that a read was taken from the meter. This is the current billing period for this statement.
13. **Meter:** The meter number at the service location you are being billed for. This number will help to identify you with our automated outage response system.
14. **Desc:** A description of what each meter serves for accounts with multiple meters.



Missoula Electric Cooperative Inc.
Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

6031 AV 0.312
JOHN DOE
5511 COOP LN
FLORENCE MT 59833-6518

Payments not received within 15 days of statement date will be assessed a 1-1.2 percent penalty.

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 12345
STATEMENT DATE: 02/08/2009
DUE DATE: 02/23/2009
BILL TYPE: Regular
NOTES: ACH - Do Not Pay-1
AMOUNT DUE: 55.00

PLEASE RETURN TOP PORTION WITH PAYMENT Page 1 of 1

<p>JOHN DOE ACCOUNT NBR: 12345 STATEMENT DATE: 02/08/2009 DISTRICT OF RECORD: 03-2 DUE DATE: 02/23/2009</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Visit MEC on the World Wide Web at www.missoulaelectric.com</p> <p style="font-size: small;">MEC'S ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE SATURDAY MARCH 21, 2009. OFFICIAL NOTICES WILL BE MAILED SOON.</p>	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: left;">Billing Summary</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Previous Balance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">78.58</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Payments 01/23/2009</td> <td style="text-align: right;">55.00 CR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance Forward</td> <td style="text-align: right;">23.58</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Current Charges</td> <td style="text-align: right;">45.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Account Balance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">68.98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monthly Budget Amount</td> <td style="text-align: right;">55.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Budget Amount Due</td> <td style="text-align: right;">55.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Average Temperature Current: 31F 1 Year Ago: 32F</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5</td> </tr> </table>	Billing Summary		Previous Balance	78.58	Payments 01/23/2009	55.00 CR	Balance Forward	23.58	Current Charges	45.40	Account Balance	68.98	Monthly Budget Amount	55.00	Budget Amount Due	55.00	Average Temperature Current: 31F 1 Year Ago: 32F	5
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Service Details		Desc:	Rate:
Loc: 1020-10-8502	Addr:		1002
Meter Reading Details		Detail of Charges	
Meter	9999999-13	Energy Charge 324 KWH	8.39
Current Reading	02/05/09 43476	Transmission Charge	3.14
Previous Reading	01/05/09-12 43152	USBP	1.13
Total Usage	324	Local Delivery	5.54
Average Daily Usage - Current YR	10 KWH	Local Services	2.33
Average Daily Usage - 1 Year Ago	20 KWH	Base Charge	24.87
		Total This Service	45.40

Sign up for automatic payment — The fastest most efficient method

Talk about convenience, set it up once and forget about it until you need to make a change!

Bank Draft – The number one way to ensure your payment is made on time every month! With a bank draft, you specify a checking account and that account is automatically debited for the amount of your bill each month. The amount will be drafted from your account on your billing due date.

Credit/Debit Card Draft – Works just like a bank draft, except with your

credit card or debit card. Your credit card or debit card is automatically debited for the amount of your electric bill each month. We accept Visa, Mastercard, Discover and American Express. The amount will be debited from your card on your billing due date.

Just complete either the CREDIT/DEBIT CARD Authorization or the CHECKING ACCOUNT Authorization below and return to MEC to sign up for Automatic Payment.

MEC EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES


Cliff Maier

*Journeyman Lineman,
Foreman
30 years*


Neal Fugere

*Journeyman Lineman,
Area Foreman
15 years*

MISSOULA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.




DEBIT AUTHORIZATION




I authorize you and the financial institution listed below to initiate electronic entry to my CREDIT/DEBIT CARD.
The deduction will be made on or about the due date as noted on the bill.

The authorization is to remain in full force and effect until the Cooperative has received written notification of its termination. Allowing in such time and in such manner as to afford Cooperative and Depository a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

Name (Please print)	Financial Institution
Signature	City/State Phone Number
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> American Express Exp. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Discover Date _____	OFFICE USE ONLY: ACCOUNT NUMBER _____ ROUTING and TRANSIT NUMBER _____ EXP. DATE _____
Credit/Debit Card Account Number	



DEBIT AUTHORIZATION



I authorize you and the financial institution listed below to initiate electronic entry to my CHECKING ACCOUNT each month.
The deduction will be made on or about the due date as noted on the bill.

The authorization is to remain in full force and effect until the Cooperative has received written notification of its termination. This notice must allow the Cooperative & Depository a reasonable length of time to act upon it.

Name (Please print)	Financial Institution
Signature	City/State Phone Number
Please fill out and return with a VOIDED CHECK.	OFFICE USE ONLY: ACCOUNT NUMBER _____ ROUTING and TRANSIT NUMBER _____
Date	

I was gone for two weeks, but my bill is just as high as the month before— Why is that?

With summertime being here everyone is ready for a vacation. When you are on an extended vacation and no one is home doesn't necessarily mean that your electric usage will decline.

This is because many electric appliances and most electronic equipment continue to use energy even if they are turned off or not being used.

Also the summer temperatures are typically on the rise during the early and mid-part of the summer; this causes your air-conditioning unit to work harder and harder to keep your home cool whether you are there or not.

Here are a few tips you can use to help reduce energy usage while you are gone.

- Turn your air-conditioning thermostat up to 85 degrees. If you have a programmable thermostat, use the "hold" or the "vacation" setting to keep it at a set temperature. Closing blinds or curtains will also help reduce solar heat gain into the house.
- Unplug or turn off the breaker to the water heater. There is no need to heat water if no one is there to use it. Even if no water is used, the water heater will continue to cycle on periodically to maintain the water temperature.
- Unplug all electronic equipment such as computers, TVs, DVDs, sound equipment, cable or satellite receivers. Almost all of this equipment uses a small amount of electricity even when they are turned off.
- Be sure all lights and ceiling fans are turned off before you leave. If you want some lights on for security reasons, be sure they are on timers to make it appear as though someone is home while saving energy. Installing compact fluorescent bulbs (CFL) in those lamps will save more energy, and the bulb will last approximately 10 times longer than a regular incandescent bulb.

By taking these steps before you leave home on an extended vacation, you can save energy and money.

Energy savings

Continued from page 3

business. In fact, many of the rebates will cover from 20 percent to 100 percent of the project cost.

All members of MEC benefit from energy efficiency improvement measures through reduced energy use and related energy supply needs which allows us to keep your rates as low as possible. Whether it's the MEC Commercial Lighting or the MEC Energy Smart Grocer Program that

suits your business the best, getting started is quick and easy. In fact, MEC personnel will walk you through the entire process. Once the eligibility requirements have been met an audit will be conducted to evaluate your current lighting and/or refrigeration system to determine what incentives may be available to you. Please visit our website at www.missoulaelectric.com or call our office at 406-541-4433 or 1-800-352-5200 and ask for Lorraine or Dave for more information on all of our Energy Efficiency Incentive Programs.

MEC incentives available

Compact Fluorescent Lamps (9 watts or higher)	\$2.50 per bulb
Qualified Energy Star Clothes Washers	
With electric water heating	\$ 70
With gas water heating	\$ 25
Qualified Energy Star Dish Washers	\$ 25
Qualified Energy Star Refrigerators	\$ 25
Qualified Energy Star Freezers	\$ 25
Qualified Water Heaters	\$ 25
Energy Star Manufactured Homes	\$1,450
Commercial Lighting	

Project must be pre-approved. Call for details.

MEC Energy Tip: Save energy and money!



Check refrigerator temperatures. You are losing money and wasting energy if your refrigerator temperature is lower than 37-40 degrees and the freezer temperature is lower than 0-5 degrees. Check temperatures using a refrigerator/freezer thermometer in a glass of water placed in the middle of the refrigerator and between packages in the freezer. Leave the thermometer in place and check it after 24 hours.

Customer propane emergencies



If You Smell a Leak in Your Home:

- DO get everyone out of the home and away from nearby areas.
- DO NOT attempt to find the leak.
- DO NOT attempt to repair your appliance or light your pilot light.
- DO NOT turn on or off light switches inside the home.
- DO NOT use a telephone inside the home or in nearby areas.
- DO NOT light matches anywhere inside or near the home.
- DO attempt to shut off the valves at the tank.
- DO call both your propane supplier and the fire department for help from a telephone away from the home and nearby area.

For all propane emergencies please call your local provider immediately! The Energy Partners after hours Emergency Hotline phone number is 1-888-523-1000.