

A newsletter from Arrowhead Cooperative

The High Line

By Line

April 2019, vol. 24



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

Arrowhead Cooperative Members Show Gratitude to Linemen

This past October, Arrowhead Cooperative members experienced a sustained outage caused by strong winds. Over 2000 member accounts lost power with an average outage time of 18 hours! All the while the wind, rain, and cold persisted.

But, so did our line-crews. Arrowhead line-crews worked safely, diligently, and with unmatched dedication to restore power across the Arrowhead Cooperative service territory. Outage restorations spanned across a large swath of the distribution system, affecting both power and fiber service.

To our line-crews who work tirelessly and with dedication: Thank you! We are grateful for your work and we salute you!

Arrowhead Cooperative members gave an outpouring of thanks and support with cards, letters, and social media posts!

So this year, like every April, as the nation celebrates National Line-workers Day, let's celebrate with our local line-workers! This

wonderful day of celebration is a federal holiday that is celebrated on the 18th of April.

With the outage from October in mind, we are reminded to mark this occasion for celebration and take a moment to appreciate the work that goes into delivering the power and broadband services that are so essential to our lives. During the month of April, if you see one of our line-workers, or a line-crew out and about, please feel free to give a wave, to pause to say thank you, or simply to just recall the dedication and vigilance that Arrowhead Cooperative line-crews give to our community.

Please feel free to join us at Voyager Brewing in Grand Marais from 5 – 8 PM on Thursday April 18th to celebrate National Line-workers Day. Stop on down and thank your local line-worker – they will appreciate it!



SAVE THE DATE!

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Arrowhead Cooperative's Annual Meeting

Saturday, June 8th

Arrowhead Center for the Arts

Grand Marais, MN

Join us for breakfast starting at 8:30am

Meeting convenes at 10am

Celebrate Earth Day on April 22

Each year we celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd. The first Earth Day, organized by Senator Gaylord Nelson, was in April 1970. Just eight months later, in December 1970, Congress authorized the creation of a new federal agency to tackle environmental issues, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

A handy chart on the EPA website lists ways to recycle electronic devices -letting you know which manufacturers and resellers offer drop-off or mail-in recycling programs. Best Buy and Target both offer recycling for some cell phones, batteries, and computers. Vizio, Samsung, and Sony have recycling options for televisions as well.

epa.gov/recycle/electronics-donation-and-recycling

Did you know that Arrowhead Cooperative will recycle your fluorescent tubes and CFL bulbs free of charge? Bring down any used fluorescent tubes or bulbs and we will put them in our recycling shed and make sure they get properly recycled. We can not accept broken or damaged bulbs.

You have heard of the Energy Star rating for appliances, right? Arrowhead offers rebates to help our members get the most efficient appliances – recycling incentive included!

<https://www.aecimn.com/residential/rate-and-rebate-programs/>



The EPA also has the WaterSense standard. WaterSense labeled products are backed by independent, third-party certification and meet EPA's specifications for water efficiency and performance. The WaterSense label makes it simple to find water-efficient products and programs that meet EPA's criteria for efficiency and performance.

epa.gov/watersense

The EPA website is a great starting point for consumers looking to learn more about how the products they use every day impact the place we live every day. The EPA devotes a section of its website to Earth Day with information on the event's history, school and community resources, and tips for greener living every day. Epa.gov/earthday

Five Easy Ways to

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY

Every Day

1. Conserve water by taking showers instead of baths.
2. Turn off all lights when you leave a room.
3. Bring your reusable bags to the market and other stores when shopping.
4. Go paperless. Pay as many bills as possible online.
5. Ditch the car and walk when possible.

Great River Energy shares financial success with membership

When Arrowhead Cooperative experiences financial success, it retires patronage capital to members. When Great River Energy's financial position is strong, it retires capital patronage capital to Arrowhead Cooperative.

Arrowhead Cooperative is one of 28 electric cooperatives that own and receive wholesale electric service from another cooperative called Great River Energy.

For the first time in its history, Great River Energy will retire patronage capital through cash payments to its member-owner cooperatives. In March, Arrowhead Cooperative will receive \$88,045.66 from Great River Energy for the years 1979 to 1983.

“Our member-owner cooperatives decided long ago to invest in the financial strength of Great River Energy by gradually increasing equity over time, with the goal of returning patronage capital to

members in 2020,” said Great River Energy Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Michelle Strobel. “With our members’ support, we achieved that goal in 2018, and we will provide cash back to members two years earlier than planned.”

Great River Energy is a cooperative and not-for-profit business that, when appropriate, returns margins to members by retiring patronage capital, just like Arrowhead Cooperative.

“The retirement of capital credits is one of the most important things we do as cooperatives,” said Jenny Kartes. “Retiring patronage capital is proof that the cooperatives of Minnesota are financially strong.”



Operation Round Up Grant Applications for 2019 Available Now!

Do you know a great local non-profit organization that could use some extra funds or has a project they are interested in achieving? Arrowhead Cooperative's Operation Round Up provides grants to groups serving Cook County.

Projects funded in 2018 include:

- Safe Routes to School
- Cook County YMCA
- Cooperation Station Child Care
- Clay Club at ISD 166

Grant guidelines and application forms are available now on Arrowhead Cooperative's website (arrowhead.coop). The applications are due in Arrowhead Cooperative's office by 4pm on Monday, April 29, 2019. Awards will be distributed at Arrowhead Cooperative's Annual Meeting on June 8, 2019. For more information please email Yusef Orest at yorest@arrowhead.coop.



Dates to Remember

April 18
April 20
April 22
April 25
April 29

Thank a lineman!
Broadband & Electric bills due
Earth Day
Board of Directors Meeting
Operation Round Up Applications Due



Cold Weather Rule Ends April 15th

The Minnesota Cold Weather Rule, a policy to help homeowners and renters stay connected or reconnect their heat during the winter months, ends on April 15. If your Arrowhead Cooperative electric account is currently past due please contact our office immediately to make a payment and avoid disconnection.

Arrowhead Cooperative Billing: 800-864-3744

Rural Electric Youth Tour Delegates

Each year the Arrowhead Cooperative Board of Directors selects two Cook County High School Juniors to represent the cooperative at the Rural Electric Youth Tour. In 2019, Doran Acero and Robin Henrikson will be going to Washington, D.C. in June to participate in leadership training and to get an inside look at our federal government and how rural electric cooperatives interact with politicians in Washington. We are all very excited to have these impressive young people as representatives of both Arrowhead Cooperative and Cook County. We look forward to hearing all about their experiences when they return.



Right-Of-Way

Right-of-Way clearing has paused for the winter. Keep in mind, clearing and hazard tree removal can happen at any time, in any area as needed.

What can you do to help?

- Please be sure the right of way is clear of personal items to ensure the mowers and equipment can pass through with ease.
- Brushing and/or mowing your private right-of-way from the meter to your home, following your electric or fiber line, would be extremely helpful. The suggested width is 10 feet for both overhead and underground services

Please mark survey pins, sprinkler systems, septic systems, well heads, wire or fencing with a five foot permanent reflective marker post within the right-of-way, and remove any personal items that may be damaged by flying debris. Arrowhead Cooperative will not accept liability for damage of these items if not notified. If you do not live at your service address, please call the office to inform us of known obstacles in your right-of-way.

Arrowhead Cooperative encourages members to contact the office with any questions or concerns regarding Right-of-Way clearing.

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Interim General Manager: Jenny Kartes
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Newsletter Editor: Yusef Orest
Cooperative Board Meeting last Thursday of each month @ 9:00 a.m. with the exception of November and December due to the holidays.
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

