



**Bayfield Electric
Cooperative**

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



The way Bayfield Electric staff communicates with members has changed considerably over the years. Take a look at that radio!



Rain or shine,
day or night,
we're here for you.

**October is National
Co-op Month.**

#PowerOn

Bayfield Electric is proud to be part of America's cooperative network, which includes more than 47,000 cooperative businesses. Due to COVID-19, we unfortunately will not be hosting a Member Appreciation Day this year. Instead, we will be doing a GIVEAWAY!

Here's how to enter the drawing to win an Apple Ipad:

1. Log onto our website, www.bayfieldelectric.com
2. Click on "My Account" in the upper right corner of the home screen
3. Create a Smart Hub online access account
4. Enroll in Auto-Pay through the Smart Hub account by December 31, 2020
5. Done!

If you are already enrolled in auto pay, you are already signed up!

*Must be
signed up for
one year!*

**A winner will be
randomly drawn
January 4, 2021.**

UNDERGROUND INSPECTIONS

During the next few weeks, Karcz Utility Services will be conducting underground inspections around the Highbridge/Morse area. Proper identification will be on their trucks.

**Please contact our office at
715-372-4287 if you have any
questions or concerns.**





BEC PLACES FLAGPOLES

For Bayfield Electric Cooperative employees Bob Lahti, Keith Kavajecz, and Keith Klobucher, setting poles and stringing power lines are part of a normal day's work. In early September they had an opportunity to use these skills in a new way when they volunteered their time to place the flagpoles that can be seen at Across the Pond Veteran's Park just outside of Iron River. This project is one small way BEC demonstrates our commitment to community.

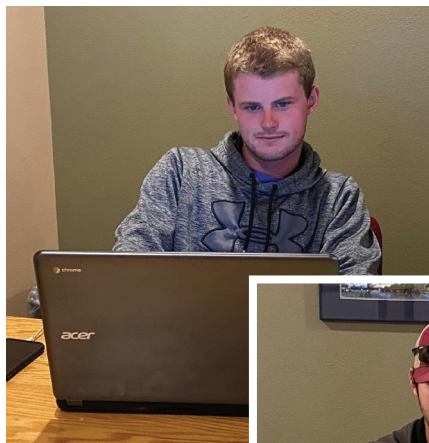
If you are interested in purchasing an 8x8 engraved tile for someone you care about to be placed on the Veterans Memorial Wall, please visit donationbricks.com/across-thepondveteranspark or www.acrossthepondpark.org for more information.



SCHOOL GOES VIRTUAL

With school up and running again, daily operations are looking quite a bit different this year.

This goes for linemen school as well. Due to COVID-19, our two fourth-year apprentice linemen, Blake Reijo and Matthew Tarasewicz, will be participating in linemen school via Zoom rather than in person. They usually attend classes totaling four weeks throughout the year.



Blake
Reijo



Matthew
Tarasewicz

TOP FIVE STEPS TO REDUCE YOUR ENERGY CONSUMPTION



1. SHUT DOWN YOUR COMPUTER

2. CHOOSE THE RIGHT LIGHT



3. ELIMINATE VAMPIRE POWER: UNPLUG CHARGERS



4. USE A POWER STRIP



5. TURN OFF YOUR LIGHTS

Seven Cooperative Principles

Cooperatives around the world operate according to the same set of core principles and values, adopted by the International Co-operative Alliance. Cooperatives trace the roots of these principles to the first modern cooperative founded in Rochdale, England in 1844.

VOLUNTARY AND OPEN MEMBERSHIP

Cooperatives are voluntary organizations open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

1

DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. The elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote) and cooperatives at other levels are organized in a democratic manner.

2

MEMBERS' ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefitting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

3

AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.

4

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION

Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so that they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public, particularly young people and opinion leaders, about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

5

COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES

Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

6

CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies accepted by their members.

7



IDLE ELECTRIC SERVICE POLICY

An idle service is any electric account that has been disconnected for a period of time and is not presently paying an electric bill. Unfortunately, with no electric usage, no revenues are generated to help offset maintenance expenses for service. These costs must be shared by other members through their monthly facility charge.

Bayfield Electric has been working to identify the idle services in our service territory as part of our regular line inspections. If our records indicate that an electric service has been idle for one or more years, a letter is sent to the property owner. The letter explains the options: The property owner can agree to have the electric service removed at no cost, or the property owner can also keep the idle electric service in place by agreeing to pay Bayfield Electric half of the current facility charge. If an idle service is removed and electric service is requested at some time in future, the work would be done according to line-extension policies for new services.

In the face of ever-rising maintenance costs, it is apparent why Bayfield Electric wants to remove idle electric services that are not generating revenue. Other than cost, there's another good reason for removing electric lines and equipment on idle services: safety. The customer's meter socket and electrical equipment often fall into disrepair once electric service is discontinued. It can easily become a safety concern.

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

The average household owns 24 electronic products, which account for roughly 12% of home energy use. When shopping for electronics, consider purchasing ENERGY STAR®-certified products, which can be 70% more efficient than conventional models.

—Source: www.energystar.gov



BOARD BRIEFS

The monthly meeting of the board of directors was held on Thursday, September 3, in the Iron River headquarters building. All directors were present; President Mark Santikko viewed in via Zoom.

- The meeting was called to order by President Mark Santikko at 10 a.m.
- A safety message was provided: Always complete the project in full; don't cut corners to finish sooner.
- The agenda, expenses, and the minutes of the July 2020 meeting were approved.
- Operations Department Report – 13 new services last month.
- The Iron River headquarters office will continue to be closed to the public but available by appointment only at this time.
- Meeting adjourned at 12 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 1, 2020.

MONTH OF
OCTOBER

Billing date: October 9, 2020

September USAGE

Bills due upon receipt

GROSS DUE AFTER October 29, 2020

Disconnect: October 13, 2020



Diane Berweger, CEO

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Briana Green, Editor



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Office Hours: 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Monday–Friday
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