



DID YOU GET A NEW CELL PHONE FOR CHRISTMAS?

More importantly, did your cell phone number change? Did you discontinue your landline phone? Remember to contact our office if any of your personal contact information has changed. Our records are only as good as the information you provide. To deliver the best customer service for our members, we encourage you to notify our billing department of any changes. To make changes please call **715-372-4287** or visit our online account change form at www.bayfieldelectric.com/update-account. It's that easy!



Happy New Year

FROM BAYFIELD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

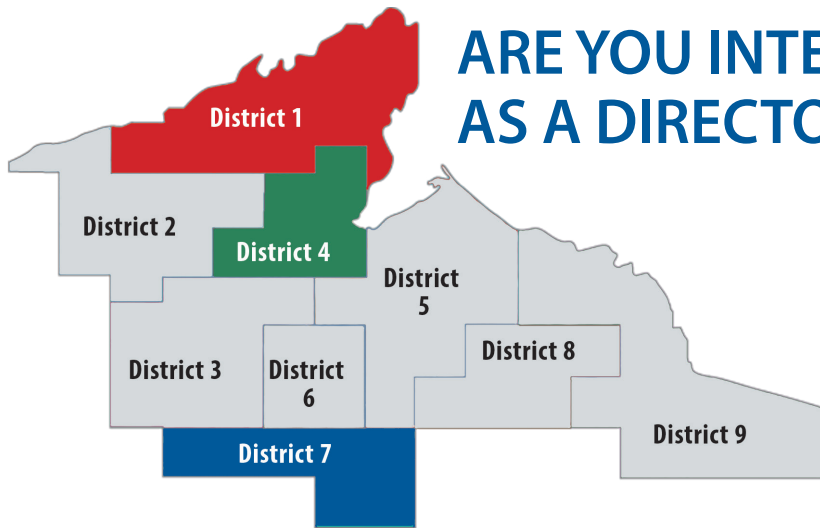
We look forward to another year of serving you, our members. We are here to help—we can help you find ways to save energy at your home, apply for assistance programs if you're having trouble paying your bill, qualify for rebates on energy efficiency upgrades for your home, or update personal information. We also offer Smart Hub, a mobile account management app that can be used as a tool to watch your energy consumption or pay your bill. SmartHub offers many other features right at your fingertips—sign up today!

Going into 2024, we plan to continue the brushing program, which eliminates trees and branches along the power lines that could potentially cause numerous power outages. We are also implementing a new metering system. You may see someone from Allegiant at your residence changing out the old meters with the new ones. This will be all automated and will eliminate those first-of-the-month manual meter reads.

We'll also continue to provide services and opportunities that benefit our community. That includes supporting our area youth by offering scholarships to students from member families, as well as sponsoring local high school students to attend the annual Youth Leadership Conference at UW-Stout in Menomonie in the summer. Keep checking this magazine as well as our website, bayfieldelectric.com, for more information about these and all other programs and services we offer.

Let's have another great year together!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SERVING AS A DIRECTOR FOR YOUR CO-OP?



The following districts are up for re-election in 2024:

District 1 – Orienta, Port Wing, Clover, Bell, Bayfield, Russell, Bayview

District 4 – Washburn, Barksdale, Pilsen, Keystone, Eileen

District 7 – Cable, Namakagon, Spider Lake

Qualifications:

- You must be a member of the cooperative within the district you are seeking to represent. This means you must take electric service at either a permanent residence, a seasonal residence, or a commercial location within the district.
- You must be at least 18 years old.
- You must not be employed by, or have a financial interest in a business that competes with, the cooperative, or a business selling energy, supplies, services or equipment to the cooperative.
- You must not have any outstanding debts to the cooperative, or brought a claim against the cooperative or its employees, officers, or directors in the previous five years.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Board members are charged with the responsibility of overseeing the cooperative, including: strategic planning, fiduciary responsibility, setting policy and direction, corporate duties, governance, and other general duties relating to the business of the cooperative.
- Directors are expected to personally attend:
 - Monthly Board Meetings
 - Annual Meeting
 - Occasional District Meetings
 - Occasional Committee Meetings
- Directors are required to review, acknowledge, and abide by the cooperative's Code of Ethics.
- Board members are provided with a preliminary agenda in advance of each board meeting.
- Directors represent Bayfield Electric in the community, which may include making public appearances.
- Directors may be eligible to serve on boards of companies or organizations affiliated with Bayfield, such as the cooperative's power supplier, Dairyland Power Cooperative.

Nomination Process:

- Nominations shall be made by petition.
- The petition must be signed by at least ten (10) members in good standing from the district you are seeking to represent.
 - A member in good standing is defined as one who is receiving electric service from the cooperative, is current on their electric bill, and does not have any bad debts with the cooperative.
 - Note: it is a violation of privacy laws for the cooperative to provide candidates with payment or debt information about members. Candidates will have to do their best to verify the standing of a member signing the petition. Candidates are encouraged to get more than the minimum number of signatures.
- Joint members (for example: a husband and wife) shall count as one signature.
- The completed petition shall be submitted to the cooperative at least ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting at which the election is held.
- For complete details on director nomination and election procedures see Article IV of the cooperative's Bylaws or contact our office.

FIVE EASY WAYS TO STAY COZY *This Winter*

Baby, it's cold outside! When you're feeling chilly at home, there are several budget-friendly ways you can keep comfortable without turning up the thermostat. Here are five easy ways to stay cozy this winter.



Whether you're experiencing extremely cold winter temps or you simply "run cold," an electric blanket can deliver quick warmth like a regular throw blanket cannot. Electric blankets can include a variety of features, like timers and dual temperature settings. This winter, consider an electric blanket instead of turning up the heat, and your electric bill will thank you.

1

One of the easiest ways to stay cozy at home is to keep your feet warm. Our feet play a critical role in regulating body temperature, so when your feet are warm, your body automatically feels warmer. Try a pair of comfortable wool socks or house slippers to stay toasty.

2

On winter days when the sun is shining, take advantage and harness natural warmth from sunlight. Open all curtains, drapes, and blinds in your home to let the sunshine in—you'll be able to feel the difference.

3

Another way to make your home cozier is to use a humidifier. Cold air doesn't hold water vapor like warm air, so by adding humidity inside your home, you can feel a little warmer. A favorable level of humidity inside your home can also help clear sinuses, soften skin, and improve sleep.

4

Beyond adding visual appeal to your home, area rugs can also provide extra insulation and a warm surface for your feet on cold winter days. Use large area rugs in rooms where you spend the most time. You'll enjoy the new colors and textures of the rug, and the additional warmth will help keep your home comfortable.

5

NORTHWOODS HARNESS CLUB 35TH ANNUAL SLEIGH AND CUTTER RALLY



Imagine life over 140 years ago when horses were the only form of transportation. The Northwoods Harness Club will be hosting its 35th Annual Sleigh and Cutter Rally on Sunday, February 4, 2024, at the Northern Pines Event Center, 69420 Airport Rd, Iron River, WI, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.. You will see beautiful horses



pulling vehicles from around the world and costumed passengers dressed in period clothing. There are narrated and judged divisions, including youth. This is a FREE, entertaining, educational, family-centered event that you won't want to miss. There will also be a raffle, vendors, and delicious food. Bring the whole family to see this wonderful event.

(Photography by JoAnn Jardine)

MONTH OF JANUARY

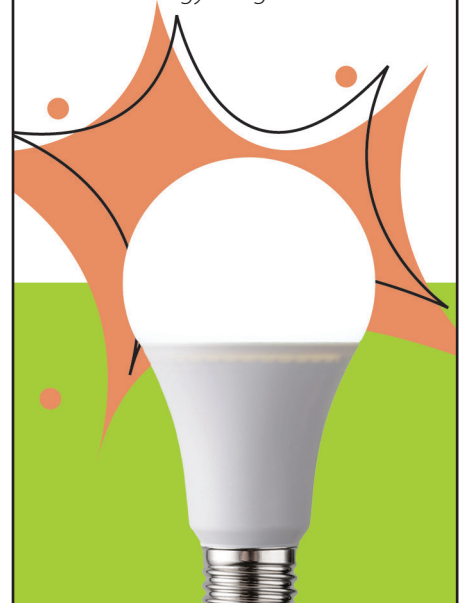
Billing date: **January 10, 2024**
December usage
Bills due upon receipt
Gross due after **January 30, 2024**

ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

During winter months, ensure your home is well sealed to reduce the need for excessive heating. Seal air leaks around your home and add insulation where needed to save up to 10% on annual energy bills.

Install weather stripping on exterior doors and apply caulk around windows. Check attic insulation levels and hire a qualified contractor if additional insulation is required.

Source: energystar.gov



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Bayfield Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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