



# NewsFlashes

JUNE 2024



Assistant Operations Superintendent Brian Johnson showed Pelican Rapids fourth graders how to climb a utility pole during their field trip to the cooperative on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

During their tour, students got an inside look at how an electric utility works, while also learning about electrical safety, safety gear, bucket trucks, and more.

## LREC Continues to Grow for You!

The number of LREC active services continues to grow. As I write this column, LREC has 29,955 active services. Since we are approaching the 30,000 active services mark, I thought it would be interesting to find out the years LREC passed the 10,000 and 20,000 active service marks. In 1958, twenty-one years after LREC was formed, we passed the 10,000 active services mark. Thirty-four years later, in 1992, LREC passed the 20,000 active services mark. This consistent growth is all because of you, the member-owners of LREC. I can only imagine what the founders of LREC would think of the growth, but I hope they would be proud of our mission to continue to serve our members in the manner members deserve to be served.

Not only has the number of active services grown throughout the years, but LREC continues to grow the business and the number of services and programs it provides our members. Our generator business has sold 536 generators to members and approximately 90% of them continue to be engaged in LREC's annual service maintenance contract. Twenty-six LREC members participate in our GoWest Solar Program, and we have 8,972 members participating in various load management programs, with several of these members participating in multiple programs, allowing 14,693 loads to be on some type of load management program. LREC's decision several years ago to invest in Carr's Tree Service, together with creating Lake Region Energy Services (LRES), which now serves

1937

natural gas to 1,197 customers, are two other ways LREC continues to grow for the benefit of our members. We remain motivated and committed to growing LREC so your cooperative can be the best cooperative it can be to meet the changing needs of our communities. LREC will never stop growing for all of you—the members of LREC!

1958  
10,000

### 2023 Capital Credit Allocation Statement

If you purchased electricity from LREC last year, your 2023 capital credit allocation will be summarized on your July statement. Capital credit allocations are your share of LREC's margins and reflect your equity and ownership of the cooperative. Each year, your portion of any margins that LREC may have is allocated, or assigned to you, based proportionately on your revenue contribution during the year. Capital credits are a great example of the benefits of being a member-owner of the cooperative that serves you.

1992  
20,000

### June is National Safety Month

You likely have heard me say this before, but nothing matters if we all don't make it home safely each day or night. June is National Safety Month, but rest assured knowing that every month LREC's number one priority is safety for our members, employees, and communities.

2024  
30,000

In the spirit of National Safety Month, I wish you all a safe and great summer!



*Tom Thompson*



## LREC Events Calendar

**July 4<sup>th</sup>: LREC Offices Closed**  
LREC offices will be closed in observance of Independence Day.

**August 2<sup>nd</sup>: Twins Youth Baseball Clinic**  
LREC is hosting a *FREE* Twins Youth Baseball Clinic at the *Jefferson Park Baseball Field* in Breckenridge, MN. It is open to everyone ages 6-12.

**August 7<sup>th</sup>: Blood Drive at LREC**  
A blood drive will be hosted at LREC headquarters in Pelican Rapids! From 9 a.m.–3 p.m., we will need volunteers willing to donate blood or Power Red.

**August 8<sup>th</sup>: Member Appreciation Event**  
Join LREC at our upcoming *Member Appreciation Event* at *Maplewood State Park*. There will be free park admittance, dinner, a live band, and more! Registration required.

➔ To learn more and register, visit [www.lrec.coop/events](http://www.lrec.coop/events)





## Downed Power Lines

Would you know what to do if you came across downed power lines? LREC's number one priority is safety – for our members and employees. With that in mind, use the following tips for safety around downed power lines.



**NEVER** touch a downed power line or go near one. **ALWAYS** assume the line is *live* and *high voltage*.

- ▶ Do not touch a fallen power line or anything touching the wire. This includes other people or equipment.
- ▶ Keep children and pets away from fallen electric wires.
- ▶ Do not drive over a fallen power line.
- ▶ Call LREC at (800) 552-7658 or 911 immediately to report a fallen power line.

If your vehicle comes in contact with a downed power line:

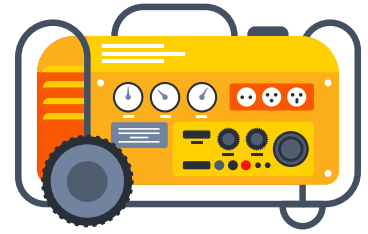
- ▶ **Stay inside!** The safest place is in your car. Remember, the ground around your car may be energized.
- ▶ Honk the horn, roll down your window, and yell for help.
- ▶ Warn others to stay away. Anyone who touches the equipment or ground around the vehicle may be injured.
- ▶ Use your mobile phone to call LREC at (800) 552-7658 or emergency services at 911.
- ▶ LREC workers will tell you when it is safe to exit your vehicle.

If there is a fire and you **MUST** exit a vehicle that has come in contact with downed power lines:

- ▶ Remove loose items of clothing.
- ▶ Keep your elbows at your side, clasp hands, and jump clear of the vehicle, so you are not touching the car when your feet hit the ground.
- ▶ Keep both feet close together and shuffle away from the vehicle without picking up your feet.
- ▶ Once you are at least 35 feet away, dial 911 and provide your exact location.

## Using Portable Generators

Generators can be helpful when the power goes out. It is important to know how to use them safely to prevent carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning and other hazards.



- ▶ Generators and fuel should always be used outdoors and *at least 20 feet away* from windows, doors, and attached garages.
- ▶ Install working carbon monoxide detectors on every level of your home. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas that can kill you, your family, and pets.
- ▶ Keep the generator dry and protected from rain or flooding. Touching a wet generator or devices connected to one can cause electrical shock.
- ▶ Always connect the generator to appliances with heavy-duty extension cords.

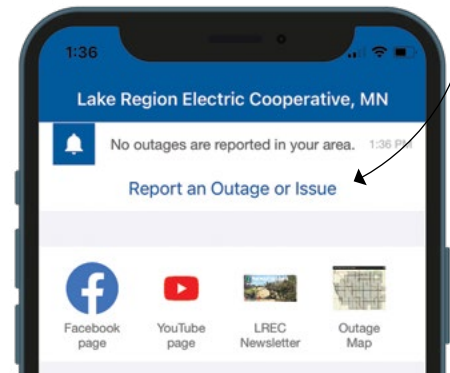
## Reporting a Power Outage

Please report an outage if experiencing the following:

- ▶ An outage lasting longer than a few minutes
- ▶ An electrical safety hazard

Members can report an outage through their **SmartHub** account or by calling (800) 552-7658. If calling, be prepared to provide as many details as possible. It is also extremely important that we have your correct phone number(s) on file. These numbers identify your account.

You may be directed to our Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system if the outage is wide-spread. The automated IVR system will prompt you to enter your outage information. Please provide info as you are prompted.



## Sign Up for Outage Alerts Via SmartHub

Would you like to be notified when there is an outage impacting your property? Would you also like status updates and a restoration notice? If so, you need to sign up for outage texting/email alerts through SmartHub! If you already have SmartHub but need directions on how to sign up for alerts, please visit [www.lrec.coop/alerts](http://www.lrec.coop/alerts) or scan the QR code to the right.



### DON'T HAVE A SMARTHUB ACCOUNT YET?

You can sign up at [lrec.smarthub.coop](http://lrec.smarthub.coop) or download the app to your phone by searching "SmartHub" in your app store.

## 2024 Energy Efficiency Rebates

See our rebates on energy efficiency! These can be combined with federal rebates available via the Inflation Reduction Act: [www.lrec.coop/ira](http://www.lrec.coop/ira)

### Heating and Cooling

Heat Pump Systems <i>*See note below</i>	Ductless air source heat pump: Must be > 1 Ton, SEER2 ≥ 15.2 & HSPF2 ≥ 8.1	\$500
	Ducted air source heat pumps: Must be either 1) SEER2 ≥ 14.3 & HSPF2 ≥ 7.5, or 2) SEER2 ≥ 15.2 & HSPF2 ≥ 8.1	1) \$750* 2) \$1,000*
	Geothermal heat pump, closed loop (max \$4,000): new (1) or replacement (2)	1) \$400/ton 2) \$200/ton
Central Air Conditioners <i>*See note below</i>	Central air conditioner, SEER ≥ 15 or SEER2 ≥ 14.3	\$50/unit*
Electric Thermal Storage (ETS)	Steffes ETS systems on short term storage	\$25 per KW
Heating Systems	All ETS systems on long term storage	\$50 per KW
Electronically Commutated Motor	Motor replacement only	\$50

### Water Heating

Heat Pump Water Heater	Must be ENERGY STAR	\$500
ETS Water Heater (5.5¢ rate)	Must be at least 100 gallons and grid enabled with mixing valve	\$400
Peak Shave Water Heater (6.1¢ rate)	Must be at least 80 gallons and grid enabled	\$100

### Miscellaneous

Electric Vehicle Charger Installation	Level 2 chargers: \$500 (must be on EV rate)	Up to \$500
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*\*Please Note: rebates for high efficiency air source heat pumps and air conditioners are available only through qualified contractors. Please visit [www.lrec.coop/qicontractors](http://www.lrec.coop/qicontractors) to view the list of qualified contractors for all Great River Energy co-ops.*

*All rebates are subject to change. Please contact LREC to verify availability.*

# NO POWER? NO WORRIES.

Summer is here and we are actively installing generators. Call now to reserve your spot! Our energy management specialists will walk you through the best options available for your home. Give us a call today at **(800) 552-7658** to schedule a consultation.

Pay the easy way with **EASY-PAY**

**EASY-PAY** is on-bill financing offered by LREC. Pay monthly for your purchase rather than a lump sum. Our **EASY-PAY** rates for generators are only 5%!

**13 kW**

POWER PROTECT



Starts at \$10,230.70

**18 kW**

POWER PROTECT



Starts at \$11,031.55

**26 kW**

POWER PROTECT



Starts at \$12,307.80

## Our standby generators offer peace of mind.

Don't be left in the dark. Our standby generator systems provide peace of mind, and they keep your life uninterrupted. Your lights stay on, and the furnace or AC continues to keep your family comfortable.

**Call today: (800) 552-7658**



Visit [www.lrec.coop/generator](http://www.lrec.coop/generator) or scan the QR code to learn more.

