

HIGHLINES

NEWS FOR THE MEMBERS OF PELLA COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC

Follow These Tips for a Safe Harvest Season

September 17-23 is National Farm Health and Safety Week! According to the U.S. Bureau Labor Statistics, the agricultural industry is one of the most dangerous jobs in America with 573 fatalities each year. Fall harvest is the most dangerous season of the year for farmers. Follow these safety tips to avoid an electrical contact this season:

- Maintain a 10-foot clearance around all utility equipment in all directions.
- Use a spotter and deployed flags to maintain safe distances from power lines and other electrical equipment when working in the field.
- If your equipment makes contact with an energized or downed power line, contact 9-1-1 immediately and remain inside the vehicle until the power line is de-energized. In case of smoke or fire, exit the cab by making a solid jump out of the cab (without touching it), and hop away to safety.
- Consider equipment and cargo extensions of your vehicle. Lumber, hay, tree limbs, irrigation pipes and even bulk materials can conduct electricity, so keep them out of contact with electrical equipment.



Pella Cooperative Electric

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

2615 Washington St.
PO Box 106
Pella, IA 50219

1-800-619-1040
www.pella-cea.org
service@pella-cea.org



Open weekdays: 7:30 am - 4:30 pm;
excluding holidays



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Pella Cooperative Electric is a not-for-profit, member-owned electric cooperative, governed by an elected Board of Directors. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. See pella-cea.org > Non-discrimination Statement for more information.

MEMBER APPRECIATION DAY DRIVE-THRU BBQ

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

11AM - 1PM



WHERE

Pella Cooperative Electric
2615 Washington Street, Pella



DRIVE-THRU

Drive thru the co-op's parking lot for a hamburger or hotdog on us, grilled by the Marion County Cattlemen. We'll hand you a member gift on your way through!

**Until the food lasts! Meals are provided for vehicle occupants only.*



GIVEAWAYS

During the week leading up to Member Appreciation Day, PCEA will randomly pick door prize winners to win \$25 off your electric bill! No entry needed. We'll let you know if you win! Watch our Facebook page for prize winner announcements.

Smart Communication with SmartHub

Have you ever had questions about your electric bill? Do you ever wonder your true usage? If you've ever had questions about your account, our innovative web and mobile app, SmartHub, can help provide some answers.



SmartHub is available through Pella Cooperative Electric's website and as a free mobile app through the App Store (iOS devices) or Google Play Marketplace (Android devices).

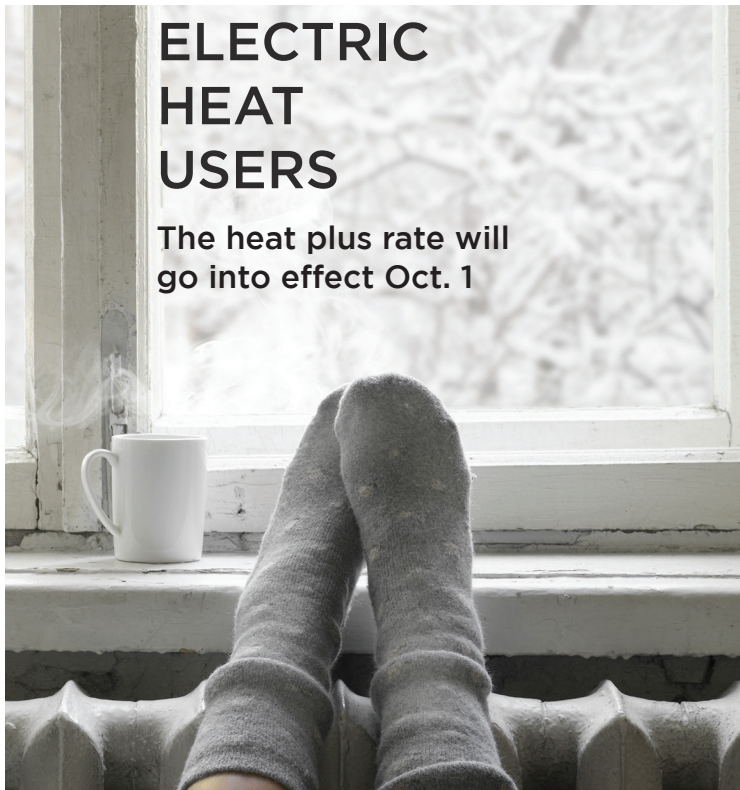
With SmartHub, you'll be able to view detailed usage information and gain insight that can help you better understand your bill. You can easily sign up for auto pay and manage your payment methods with SmartHub. You'll be able to put yourself in the driver's seat of your electric account.

You can also contact us with any issues regarding your service. Take control of your account and make interacting easy with SmartHub.

Learn more at
www.pella-cea.org/smarthub

ELECTRIC HEAT USERS

The heat plus rate will
go into effect Oct. 1



**WANTED:
Rural Iowa
high school
students
who have a
passion for
leadership**

Attend our webinar
series in October
for a chance to win
Apple AirPods and
a \$1,000 college
scholarship! Learn more
at IowaYouthTour.com



RECare: Just a Few Dollars Can Go a Long Way

Take the opportunity to make a difference in our community and give back to those in need with the RECare program. The RECare program helps low-income members make weatherization improvements to their home and/or pay their electric bill. Unemployment and unexpected expenses are some of the many reasons why families fall behind on their energy bills.

It's easy to sign up. Fill out this form and mail it back to us, or sign up online at pella-cea.org.

RECare SIGN UP FORM

"YES! I want to donate."

- ☐ Enclosed is a check with a one-time donation.
- ☐ I would like to make a monthly donation of \$ _____.
I understand that this amount will be automatically added to my monthly electric bill.
- ☐ Matching fund contribution. I will make a one-time contribution with a check enclosed. My contribution will be matched by: _____

Account #: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Need Help with Your Heating Bill?

The 2023-2024 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps qualifying low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs for the winter heating season. The assistance is based on household income, household size, type of fuel, and type of housing.

WHEN TO APPLY:

- Elderly (60+) and/or disabled: Oct. 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024.
- All other households: Nov. 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024.

WHAT TO TAKE:

- Proof of Income (for all household members age 19 and over). Depending upon your household income type, income documentation from the past 30 days, the last 12 months, or last calendar year, whichever is easier or more beneficial for you;
- Proof of Social Security Numbers for all household members (documentation required);
- Most recent heat bill; and
- Most recent electric bill.

Wage Earners: Please bring copies of your check stubs for the 30-day period preceding the date of application, or a copy of your most recent federal income tax return

Fixed Income: This income may include Social Security Benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Family Investment Program, Veteran's Assistance, Unemployment Insurance, and pensions. Please bring copies of your check stubs from the previous 30 days.

Self-Employed/Farmers: Please bring a copy of your most recent federal income tax return.

FIP Recipients: Please bring your current DHS Notice of Decision or contact your local office for acceptable document information.



Income Maximums	
Household Size	Annual Gross Income
1	\$29,160
2	\$39,440
3	\$49,720
4	\$60,000
5	\$70,280
6	\$80,560
7	\$90,840
8	\$101,120

For households with more than eight members, add \$10,280 for each additional member.

If you receive alimony or child support, it will also need to be verified. Additional income not listed here may be required.

If you are not sure where to apply, dial 2-1-1 or visit <https://humanrights.iowa.gov/dcaa/where-apply> to contact your local community action agency, or write to:

LIHEAP
Iowa Department of Human Rights
Capitol Complex
Des Moines, IA 50319

NEW CIPCO CEO ATTENDS AUGUST BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors welcomed a special visitor to their meeting Aug. 31.

Andrew St. John, CEO of Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO) who was named to that position in May, attended the meeting in order to meet board members face-to-face and provide an update on our cooperative's power supply. As a CIPCO Member-owner, PCEA purchases power from CIPCO that is then distributed to our members' homes and businesses.

St. John said the wind, solar, and natural gas resources CIPCO has recently brought online continue to perform well. CIPCO continues to look for new generation to support the growing demand for power, and is closely monitoring federal emissions regulations that pose a risk for coal and natural gas plants. He emphasized CIPCO's support of an "all of the above" power supply strategy that includes dispatchable resources, while also building wind and solar assets into the power supply.

