

Notices:
Your electric heat bills may be exempt from sales tax
 If 50 percent or more of your energy costs are for using electricity to heat your home, you may be exempt from Minnesota sales tax on that heat cost. Fill out the exemption form online at www.mvec.net. If you have filed for an exemption in the past, there is no need to file again.

Active military personnel protected from shut off
 Minnesota Law protects active duty military personnel households from shut-off if they cannot pay utility bills. To request an arrangement, complete a Military Protection form at www.mvec.net and return it to MVEC. If you qualify and make the required monthly payment, MVEC will not disconnect your electricity due to financial hardship.

MVEC offices will be closed
 November 23-24 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

October Board Meeting
 highlights are online at www.mvec.net.



Want to serve on MVEC's board? Three seats open in 2018 election

Interested in serving on MVEC's Board of Directors? The filing period is now open with a deadline of Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018. The director positions held by Tom Wolf of Prior Lake (District I), Bill Heinlein of Chanhassen (District II) and Kevin Gibbs of Le Center (District III) will be on the ballot.

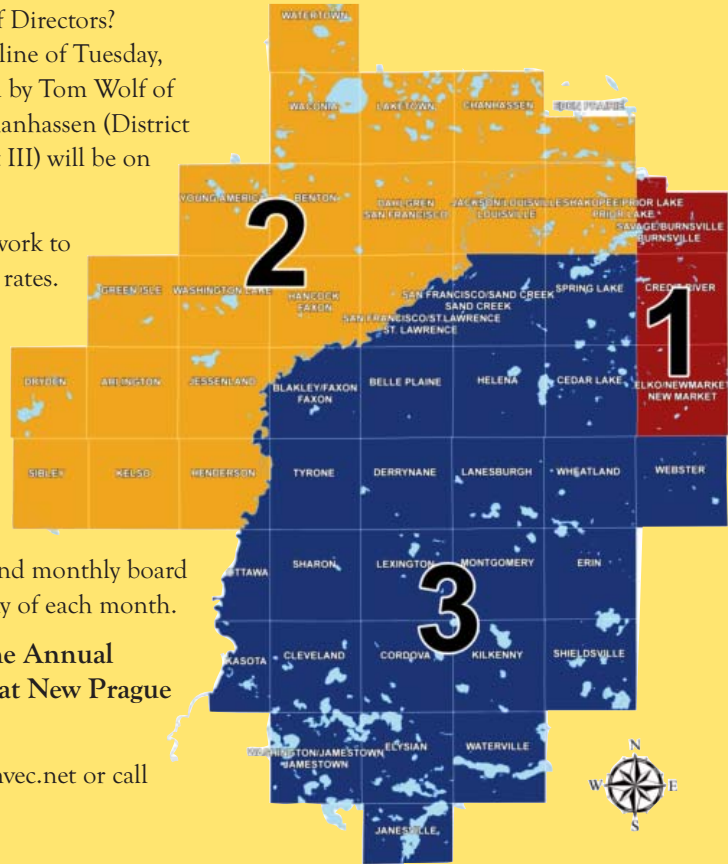
Directors represent the membership and work to establish policies, develop budgets and set rates.

Qualifications

- Candidates must be members who reside within MVEC's service area.
- Candidates may not be employed by or financially involved with a competitor or business selling electric energy or supplies.
- If elected, directors must be able to attend monthly board meetings held at 8:30 a.m. the last Monday of each month.

Voting will take place by mail or at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at New Prague Senior High School.

For more information, contact deannc@mvec.net or call 952.492.8288 before Jan. 30.



Saving kilowatt hours for the community
Meet the 2017 winners
 of the
Beat the Peak
 energy challenge
on pages 2 and 3

2017 Beat the Peak winners

Meet the teams that saved the most energy in this year's summer energy challenge.

River Valley YMCA

large group first place

Prize: \$7,500.00

Using the money for: youth development programs, specifically Esperanza, a program that provides free safety around water classes for Hispanic/Latino youth and sports conditioning sessions.



Redtail Ridge Elementary

large group second place

Prize: \$3,000.00

Using the money to: expand the use of flexible/alternative seating in its classrooms. Providing options such as yoga balls, T-stools, and standing desks as alternatives to traditional chairs will ensure that students can choose seating that works best for them, improving comfort, focus, and learning school-wide. Pictured, from left to right, are Barb Yetzer (Principal) and fifth grade teachers Pam Doerr and Dana Reetz, demonstrating some alternative seating options.

Cystic Fibrosis Society of Minnesota

large group third place | Prize: \$1,500.00

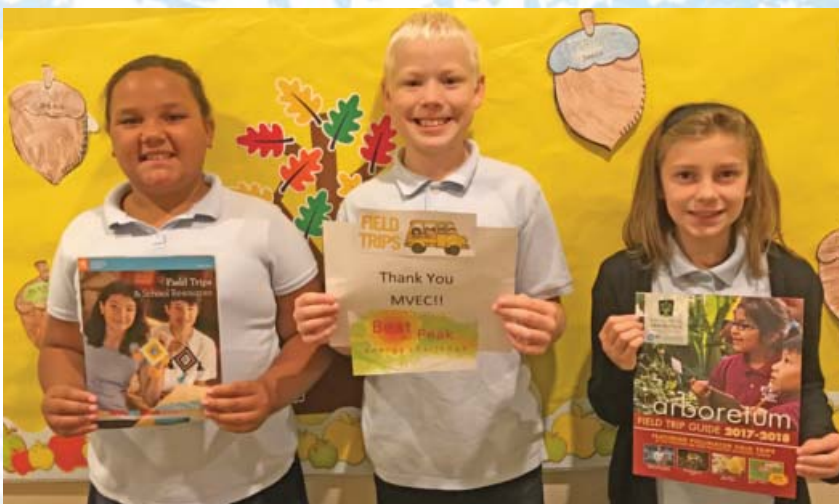
Using the money for: the mission to cure cystic fibrosis and to provide all people – including Andreus (pictured at right with his mother and physician) – with the disease the opportunity to lead full, productive lives by funding research and drug development, promoting individualized treatment and ensuring access to high-quality, specialized care.





Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Elementary School

medium group first place | Prize: \$2,500.00 Using the money for: educational field trips.



Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic School

medium group second place | Prize: \$1,000.00
 Using the money to: help pay for a field trip this winter to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum to learn more about plants and their habitats.

New Prague Rotary

medium group third place | Prize: \$500
 Using the money for: "Reach Out and Read" grant to provide school books to children at their well-child doctor appointments.

Waterville-Elysian-Morristown Volleyball

small group second place | Prize: \$500
 Using the money to: buy volleyball equipment, strength training equipment, uniforms, and support team building activities.



River Valley All Stars

small group first place | Prize: \$1,000.00
 Using the money to: offset travel and uniform costs so more children are able to participate and gain the benefits of being in a competitive sport.

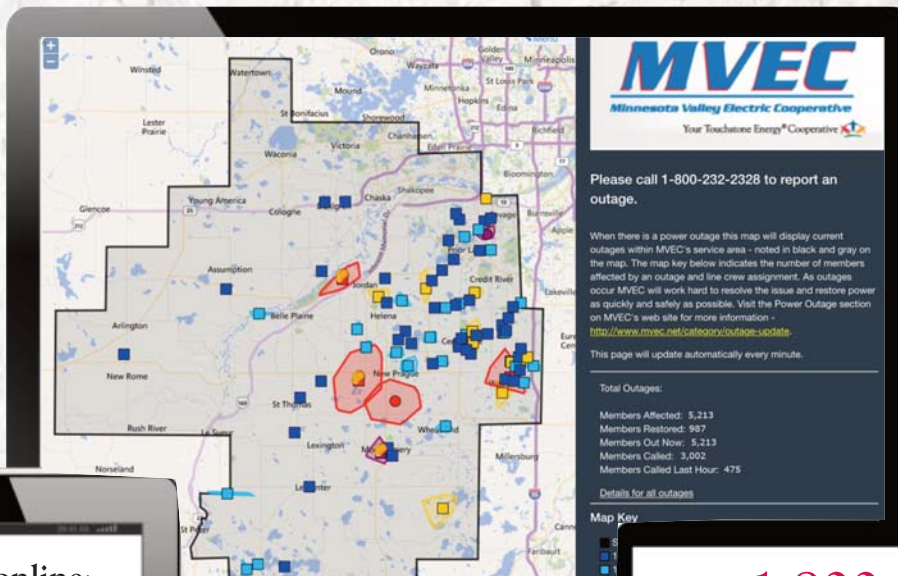
Getting ready for winter? Here's one more thing to do



Update your phone numbers!

Call 952.492.8333 or 1.866.492.8333 | OR www.mvec.net/update-phone

Why is it important? If your two most-used phone numbers (landline and cell phone) are in MVEC's records, our automated phone system will be able to identify your location when you call in an outage. Your information is added to the other outage information that has been reported. This helps our dispatchers send crews to needed areas and speeds up power restoration.



MVEC's online outage map shows the location and size of outages. A yellow hard hat means a crew has been dispatched. You can access it from your computer, smartphone or tablet.

Learn more online:

- Outage map
- Outage updates
- Restoration process
- Be prepared
- Critical service load
- Update phone #
- Tree trimming
- Call before you dig
- Public safety

www.mvec.net

Call **1.800.232.2328** or **952.492.8255** to report outages or downed power lines

During large or prolonged outages, updates are posted on **www.mvec.net** and on our Facebook page