

Energy resolutions for the New Year

Do you make New Year's resolutions? Along with eating better, moving more and stressing less, why not put saving your energy dollars, making your home more energy efficient and taking advantage of free MVEC services on your 2022 resolution list.

Your co-op's every day resolution is to provide you, our member-owners, with reliable energy delivered safely at cost. We also want to help you maximize the value of the service you get from MVEC through a variety of programs, products and services we offer.

For example, we can help you save money on your energy bill with free energy use advice, Energy Wise programs and rebates on energy-efficient products. When you sign up for a free SmartHub account, you can monitor and manage your home energy use, pay your bill online and access additional options right from your phone or computer.

If you follow MVEC on social media, you can stay up to date on power restoration efforts, co-op events and energy and safety tips. You'll also see photos of our line crews in action and employees helping with community service projects.

You can sign up for text alerts and request outage and restoration updates — information you can also see online at www.mvec.net.



CEO's Corner Ryan Hentges

MVEC exists to serve our members, and the more you know about the co-op and its programs, the better we can serve you. When you have questions about energy efficiency or products, we want to be the source you turn to.

This issue is full of ways you can maximize your co-op membership, so that we can provide you with service that exceeds your expectations.



Attend Annual Meeting to see how your co-op works

Whether it's attending the Annual Meeting, voting for a director in your district or running for the board



currently held by Deb Erickson in District I, Gary Haberman in District II and Jim Connelly in District III.

If you are interested in running for one of the open board seats, call 952.492.8242 or email elections@mvec.net before Jan. 25.

Learn more about your co-op and hear election results firsthand at MVEC's 85th Annual Meeting, 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at the Arlington Community Center.



yourself, you are part of a cooperative that is democratically run by the members it serves.

The MVEC Board Directors are members who reside within MVEC's service area and set the policies that govern the cooperative. Three seats on the board are up for election in 2022,

Additional resources and board meeting highlights available 24/7 at www.mvec.net



Inside this issue:

Energy Resolutions for 2022/**pages 2-3**

Residential and commercial rebates available/**page 3**

Apply now for 2022 Youth Tour trip/**page 4**

Scholarship deadline is Feb. 21/**page 4**

MVEC

MINNESOTA VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

Hello 2022: Make a resolution to take advantage of your MVEC membership



Use SmartHub

Manage all aspects of your MVEC account on your computer, smartphone, or tablet with SmartHub.

With this free account management tool, you can:

- make payments
- check electric usage
- communicate account issues
- receive email or text alerts
- report a power outage



SmartHub is easy to navigate. It's simple and quick to make a payment or view your hourly meter data. You can compare bills and find out what day of the week or hour of the day you typically use the most electricity.

Learn more at:
www.mvec.net/smarthub/



Update your info

Having your correct contact information can speed up the power restoration process during an outage. That's because when you call to report an outage, our

automated system recognizes your phone number and matches it with your account location. Accurate information helps our outage-management system predict the location and the possible cause of an outage, making it easier for our crews to correct the

Make a quick update at:
www.mvec.net/my-account/



Report outages by text

Once you've set up a SmartHub account, you can report an outage by texting **OUT** to **855-963-3830**. You just need to make sure in your account settings,

your phone number is enabled to receive text messages. Then you can also text **STATUS** to request outage updates.



Find easy instructions to set up texting at:
www.mvec.net/report-an-outage/



Set up Auto

Take one more item off your list by signing up for Automatic Recurring Credit Card Payments. Other options to make

payments for your household, your time, and your budget include: by phone, online with SmartHub or by mail. You can also choose Budget Billing, which averages out your electric bill for a more predictable monthly amount.

Choose a payment method at:
www.mvec.net/my-account/



Find a discount

The Co-op Connections Program gives you local and national offers and discounts on prescriptions, dining, entertainment, retail,

home improvement and more. Download the app (most convenient and GPS-enabled for traveling) or print out as many copies as you need.



Get your Co-op Connections app at:
www.mvec.net/co-op-connections/



Receive help

If you are having trouble keeping up with your electric bill, you may wish to join our convenient Pay as you Go

payment program or contact one of our friendly member service representatives for energy saving tips and other solutions.



See options at:
www.mvec.net/financial_assistance/

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Follow us

See the lighter side of co-op life by following us on **Facebook**, where we highlight our crews working in the field, employees volunteering in the community and other behind-the-scenes information, as well as updates on larger outages.

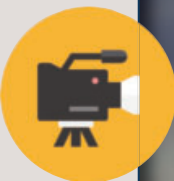
You can also find us on **You Tube, Twitter, Pinterest** and **Instagram**. Just search for Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative.



View a video

Are you a visual learner? We have an online library with 30-plus videos. A wide variety of subjects include

Creating a SmartHub Account, Reasons You'll Love a WiFi Thermostat, Changing your Furnace Filter, Co-op Careers and more.



Watch a video at:
www.mvec.net/stay-informed/video-library/



Get rebates

Make an investment in energy efficient appliances and products for your household and receive a rebate of \$25-\$500. Products include:

- Energy Star appliances - \$25 each
- Air, Ground and Mini-Split Heat Pumps - \$300-\$500
- Air Conditioner and Tune-Ups - \$25 - \$100
- WiFi Thermostats - \$50
- ECM Motors - \$50
- Electric Resistant Heaters - \$10/kW
- Electric Vehicle Chargers - \$150 per port



See residential rebate details at:
www.mvec.net/rebates-3/

Business, agricultural and commercial members also have rebates for lighting, heating, motors and other facility efficiency measures. Learn more at
www.mvec.net/business-solutions/



Seek adventure by applying for Youth Tour to Washington, D.C.

A six-day all-expenses-paid youth leadership experience is available to a lucky high school sophomore or junior whose parent or guardian is a member of MVEC. The trip is scheduled for June 14-19, 2022.



MVEC's representative will travel with 40 other Minnesota teens sponsored by their rural electric co-ops. Along with 1,500 national delegates, you will learn how electric cooperatives help power the USA.

We will also choose a standby student to serve as an alternate and receive a \$200 prize.

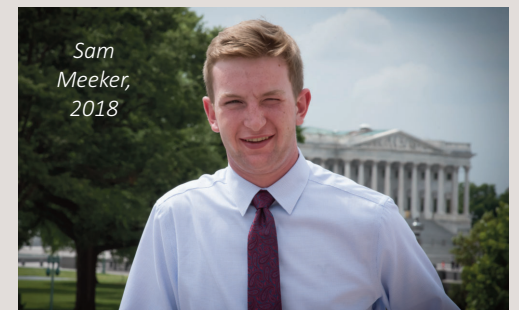
Why apply?

Make new friends. Youth Tour was created in 1958 and now boasts over 50,000 alumni. Many participants have cited the lifelong friendships from all around the country as the best part of the trip.



Experience our Nation's Capitol. Past trips have included Arlington National Cemetery, Capitol Hill, the Lincoln Memorial, Mount Vernon, the Smithsonian Institution, the U.S. Supreme Court, the Washington National Cathedral and more.

Stand out. Being selected for Youth Tour is a unique accomplishment and a chance to add leadership skills to your college application and work resume. It's the experience of a lifetime!



Apply by March 15, 2022, at:
www.mvec.net/youth-tour/

Join Operation Round Up



Thousands of generous MVEC members participate in this community donation program, and it makes a BIG difference in our service area by simply rounding up monthly electric bills.

If you are part of an organization that is involved with economic development, education and youth, the environment or emergency energy assistance, you can apply for funding and a nine-member board of MVEC members decides quarterly on the grant requests. Since 1995, MVEC's Operation Round Up program has donated over \$2 million!

Join Operation Round Up at:
www.mvec.net/operation-round-up/

Apply for a high school scholarship

\$1,000 MVEC Scholarships Five recipients from each of MVEC's three districts are randomly selected.

New! Lineworker Scholarships Specifically for students entering the field of electrical line work, the scholarship amount will range from \$1,000 to \$3,000, depending upon how many applications are received.

Basin Scholarship Our wholesale power provider has a \$1,000 scholarship available for high school seniors and college undergraduates. The recipient is chosen by Basin Electric.

Winners will be recognized during MVEC's 85th Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 5, at the Community Center in Arlington.

Apply by February 21, 2022, at:
www.mvec.net/high-school-scholarships/



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