

Q: What do coffee and the International Space Station have in common?

A: 240 megawatt hours of energy!

When MVEC called for energy conservation on June 20 — a day that reached 101 degrees — our engineers estimate 240 megawatt-hours of energy were saved on that one day alone, compared to a similar day without conservation efforts. The savings on June 20 was equivalent to brewing 1.9 million cups of coffee and 100 times more energy than the International Space Station uses daily. Never underestimate the power of collective savings.



CEO's Corner By Ryan Hentges

Update on summer energy issues

Summer is here, and June quickly ushered in extremely hot temperatures, bringing attention to conservation efforts, grid reliability challenges and higher electric usage due to cooling systems running nonstop to keep homes and businesses comfortable. Many things are happening in the energy industry. Below is a quick cooperative update.

Thanks for your energy conservation efforts, it helps you and the co-op save money.

The most notable day of heat in June was on the 20th, topping off at 101 degrees. We asked members to conserve electricity and

shift usage after the energy rush hour of 3-9 p.m. And that's exactly what many of you did as you can see by the comparison of coffee and the international Space Station above.

MISO and MVEC systems performed well in June

In June, there was adequate generation in the Midcontinent Independent System Operation (MISO) market, our region's energy traffic controller. MISO monitors the electric grid system's performance and reliability. When this occurs, MVEC schedules various voluntary, member load control programs called money-saving Energy Wise or generator programs. A big thanks to members participating. Not only do you receive a lower electric rate or a monthly discount, it helps MVEC lessen high-cost peaks in energy demand and

helps to maintain balance on the power grid.

Summer heat impacts your electric bill

Needless to say, despite conservation efforts, energy and fuel prices are impacting the co-op's wholesale power costs — due to world events beyond our control. On your July electric bill, residential members saw a slight increase in the Wholesale Power Cost Adjustment (WPCA), averaging around \$3. Because the WPCA is expected to continue to increase through 2022 into 2023, your Board of Directors voted to spread those costs over 12 months versus the usual three months to lessen the monthly impact.

The WPCA is an adjustment of actual costs versus what was forecast. It isn't a new concept and has been around since 2000.

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



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Savannah Berg will never forget 2022 Youth Tour experience

More than 1,700 students from electric cooperatives all across America take part in the Washington, D.C., Youth Tour each year. This unique trip gives young people the opportunity to learn about our country's history; explore museums, memorials and monuments; make friendships that will last a lifetime; and be part of a youth leadership group that has more than 50,000 alumni in every walk of life. Savannah Berg of Carver was MVEC's 2022 representative who joined 35 fellow Minnesota students on the tour. Here are photos and Savannah's deep-felt emotions on her experience.



"I feel so happy here. The people I have met, from Arizona to Florida. We were brought together because of one common theme in our lives: We are powered by rural electric cooperatives." So begins Savannah Berg's journal that recorded her experiences and feelings during her six-day adventure in Washington, D.C. in June.

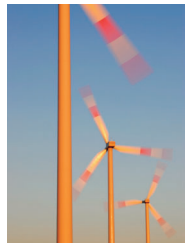
"Overall, the people I have met are by far the best part of the trip," she wrote. "We were brought together as friends on our own accord. By our willingness to reach out and open ourselves up to new people. Our interests, goals and political activeness made us close."

Youth Tour is held annually in June. The Minnesota contingent is coordinated by the Minnesota Rural Electric Association. MVEC sends one representative each year with applications open in November. More information can be found at www.mvec.net/youth-tour/ Savannah is in the front row on the right.



Notice of co-generation

In compliance with Minnesota Rules relating to Cogeneration and Small Power Production, Chapter 7835, MVEC is required to interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers that satisfy the conditions of a qualifying facility. MVEC has available and will provide free information to all interested members regarding rates and interconnection requirements. An application for interconnection is required and subject to approval by the cooperative for a qualifying facility to interconnect and operate in parallel with the cooperative's distribution system. Any disputes over interconnection, sales and purchases are subject to resolution by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. For more information, contact Jeff Langeberg at jeffl@mvec.net.



Are we looking for you?

Capital Credits are a cooperative benefit. Sometimes we are unable to locate former or current members who have moved from their last known address. To locate these members, annually we publish a listing of Unclaimed Capital Credits at: mvec.net/your-cooperative/capital-credits/ Be sure to check to see if you or someone you know is on the list.





"Our first stop was the Vietnam Memorial, which holds a lot more power in person. With every step along the side of The Wall, as you descend to the corner point, you begin to feel a weight on your shoulders. Each step, every name read, every flower passed — it all weighs down on you and slowly lifts as you exit upward.

The World War II memorial affected her as well. It reminded her of just recently learning about a great-uncle's service and death during WW 2 in a battleship torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine.

"I may have forgotten (about him), but everyone who created and visited the memorial didn't. Everyone who visited, who paid their respects, didn't forget him. I am indebted to those people, a debt I won't be able to repay. And that's why these memorials matter. Because no matter what, the lost lives of our nation will always be remembered by someone."

"I was more grateful to Franklin Delano Roosevelt than I was before I came to the Youth Tour. A few days before I departed for D.C., I realized how President Roosevelt's creation of the Rural Electrification Administration in 1935 has affected my family for generations."

"My farm was one directly affected by the rural electrification act. My grandfather spent the first six or so years of his life with lanterns for interior lighting and a well and outhouse for plumbing. My grandfather remembers when electricity came to our farm, and how much it changed their way of life."

"Because of FDR, lives are still being changed all across rural America. I don't think I've ever been able to personally appreciate the acts of a specific president in office before, and that is a piece of gratitude I will hold on to for the rest of my life."

"Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity. This trip was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that I am eternally grateful for, and one I will never forget."



Read more about Savannah's Youth Tour experience at www.mvec.net/youth-tour/

Back to school safety check

Back to school time means the return to dorm rooms, logging in for homework, early morning routines and fall outdoor activities. Here's a refresher class on safety:

- DON'T plug a bunch of stuff into one outlet or extension cord. It could damage the electrical system in your dorm room or house or even cause a fire.
- DO make sure all electric cords are tucked away, neat and tidy. Pets might chew on electrical cords, and people might

trip and fall.

- DON'T use appliances or electronics near water like bathtubs, sinks or pools.
- DON'T ever climb the fence around an electrical substation. If a ball or pet gets inside the fence, call MVEC at 952.492.8255. Expert workers will come and get it out for you.
- DON'T yank an electrical cord from the wall. Pulling on a cord can damage the appliance, the plug or the outlet.

Drive Safe!

Red flashing lights mean stop and wait at least 20 feet behind the bus while children are getting on or off. Stay stopped until the lights stop flashing, the stop-arm is withdrawn and the bus begins moving again.



In 2021, the Federal Trade Commission received 5.7 million incident reports, including identity theft.

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM UTILITY SCAMS



- Never give personal information to an unknown caller.
- Demands for immediate payment by gift card or cash or you power will be shut off should immediately raise red flags.
- When in doubt, call MVEC directly. at 952.492.2313.

Non-discrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

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In fact, we have given credits on 27 of the past 46 months on your electric bill. When the actual cost of power is below the forecast, the WPCA is a credit. If the actual cost is above the forecast, the WPCA is an addition.

Cost of service rate study

Due to rising WPCA and market conditions, MVEC is conducting a rate study this fall. When there is rapid change in the energy markets, it's important to review the rate structure. MVEC will make sure the co-op has financial stability and will balance how to best deal with economy changes that might impact the membership today and into the future. More details will be shared in upcoming newsletters.

Service area transition with Shakopee Public Utilities

MVEC and Shakopee Public Utilities (SPU) made a joint request to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission in June to approve a plan for transferring customers from one utility to the other in light of the city of Shakopee's annexation of Jackson Township.

Both utilities mutually agreed on the service area boundaries impacted. Homeowners and businesses in Jackson Township, currently served by MVEC, will be welcomed as customers of SPU. Likewise, current SPU customers with Prior Lake addresses south of County Road 42 will become members of MVEC.

The switchover date with Shakopee is pending; however, we anticipate a completed transition by the end of 2022. It's a win-win plan for both utilities.

So as summer winds down, know that your co-op is working hard to be your trusted energy partner, safely providing reliable energy – at cost. To help educate members and keep open lines of communication, we've dedicated a web page called "Summer Energy Alert Information" with great resources for you to check out at www.mvec.net/summer-energy-alert/

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