

CEO Update from Marvin Denzer

It's our privilege to Deliver More to you



October is National Co-op Month, and it's the perfect time to reflect on what makes Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative unique.

Every time you turn on a light, you're powered by more than electricity. **You're powered by purpose** because at MVEC, we are more than a utility.

As a member-owned cooperative, we exist to serve you, our friends and neighbors. The decisions that guide your cooperative aren't made in a distant boardroom. They're made right here at home by people who live in our communities for the people who call this home. That local connection keeps us focused on what matters most: **delivering safe, reliable, and affordable electricity** while looking out for the long-term well-being of you, our member-owners.

Being a cooperative also means you are more than a customer — you're a valued member-owner. That distinction drives us to do more. Whether it's through money-saving energy programs, investments in technology that improve reliability, or our active role in supporting schools, nonprofits, and local events, MVEC is committed to **Delivering More**.

This year's Co-op Month theme, **Powered by Purpose**, reminds us why we exist. Our purpose is clear: to serve the needs of you, our member-owners, and strengthen the communities we call home. For all of us at MVEC, it truly is a privilege to serve you.

We thank you for your trust and your ownership in this cooperative. Co-op Month is a reminder that together we celebrate more than an organization: **we celebrate the power of community.**

Cooperatively yours,

Marvin



Did You Know?

- Electric co-ops were founded in the 1930s when rural residents had no access to electricity. MVEC was established on March 6, 1937.
- Electric cooperatives power 42 million Americans across 48 states. MVEC powers 48,400 homes and businesses.
- Co-ops maintain 2.7 million miles of power lines — nearly half of the U.S. distribution system. MVEC maintains over 4,290 miles.
- Most co-ops serve just 8 members per mile of line, compared to 32 for investor-owned utilities. MVEC has 11 members per mile of line.

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



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MVEC

MINNESOTA VALLEY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

At MVEC, our purpose goes beyond electricity. Every program, initiative, and investment is designed to serve our members and strengthen our communities — truly Powered by Purpose.

Powered to help you save

Helping member-owners save energy and money is part of the cooperative's purpose. From in-home conversations with an energy specialist to residential Energy Wise efficiency programs and rebates, MVEC provides practical tools for members to save.

Checking a member-owner's electrical panel



Powered to support our communities

Our commitment to community shines through events like safety demonstrations, the Minnesota Twins Baseball Clinic, and community celebrations. Along with supporting schools, nonprofits, and local gatherings, MVEC invests in opportunities that bring communities together to build stronger, safer neighborhoods.

Engaging with kids at the Le Sueur Summer Safety Camp



Powered by YOU, our member-owners

Belonging to a co-op means members have a voice. Events such as our Co-op Month Member Meetings give you the chance to share ideas, ask questions, and see firsthand how your involvement can help shape MVEC's future.

October 2024 Member Meeting in Prior Lake



Meet our electric lawn mower winner

Jerry Siehndel of Le Center was the lucky winner when his name was randomly drawn from a pool of 511 entries in our 2025 EGO Power+ 800 Lawn Mower Giveaway. The contest was promoted in the *Electric Eye* and online Aug.-Sept. 19. "I was shocked when I found out," said Siehndel, who was thrilled with his prize. "I never win anything, probably going back to grade school, so I wasn't even thinking about checking back on the contest." Check out MVEC's new cordless outdoor lawn equipment rebates at www.mvec.net/rebates-3



Powered to invest in reliability

Delivering reliable electricity is central to MVEC's mission. By reinvesting in our system with projects like the Prior Lake Substation rebuild, our technicians use advanced technology to keep power flowing safely and consistently for members.

Configuring the redesigned Prior Lake Substation project



Keeping YOU Powered

When severe storms hit our service area, linemen, engineers, and others work diligently to restore power, sometimes around the clock, until the last member has their lights back on. This dedication in unexpected conditions reflects our promise to keep our member-owners and communities connected.

Storm-related tree and power line damage near Cleveland

Thank you for the privilege of powering your lives!

Deadline is Nov. 15

Nominate a cooperative community hero!

Do you know someone who goes above and beyond to make the MVEC community better? Now's your chance to recognize their service through the Cooperative Heroes Award, launched by Minnesota's Touchstone Energy cooperatives.

The contest is managed through the Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA).

MVEC member-owners can nominate a community hero who makes an impact in their community through volunteer work and embodies the Touchstone Cooperative values of integrity, accountability, innovation, and commitment to community.

Three winners will be chosen from electric cooperatives across Minnesota, with prizes paid to the cause or organization of the winners' choice.

- 1st place: \$1,000
- 2nd place: \$500
- 3rd place: \$500

Nominations are open Oct. 1–Nov. 15, 2025, at www.mrea.org/programs/touchstone-energy

The winner will be announced at MREA's Annual Meeting in early 2026.



CYBERSECURITY MONTH

4 tips to be safe online

October is Cybersecurity Month. Check out these four tips to reduce your risk and keep your online accounts and connected devices, like computers and phones, secure.

1 Strong, unique passwords

Choose long (16+ characters), complex passwords for every account. Avoid easy tricks like swapping letters for symbols.

2 Enable multifactor authentication (MFA)

Add an extra layer of protection beyond your password, such as a one-time code or fingerprint scan. Enable MFA on email, banking, and social media. Never share your codes with anyone.

3 Keep software updated

Turn on automatic updates for computers, apps, browsers, and antivirus software, and don't ignore prompts. Don't forget your phones, tablets, and smart devices. Updates help fix security flaws.

4 Watch for phishing and scams

MVEC will never ask for your password or personal information by



email or phone. Be cautious of urgent messages or unexpected links. When in doubt, verify before you click.

A few simple steps can go a long way toward protecting your personal information, and your devices.

Electric heat is tax-exempt

Your electric heat bills may be exempt from Minnesota sales tax from November through April if 50 percent or more of your energy use is for heating.

Separately metered MVEC Energy Wise systems also qualify. Learn more at www.mvec.net/stay-informed/find-a-form/

If you've filed before, it remains in effect until you notify us otherwise.



Meet our Team: the friendly faces behind the power



As a Metering Technician, Joe ensures safe, accurate, and reliable service for our members.

With thousands of meters across the system, dependable performance is essential, and Joe delivers. From installing and maintaining metering and load management equipment to conducting residential power quality studies, Joe prioritizes safety to deliver reliable power to MVEC member-owners.

At MVEC, team members like Joe power our communities. One connection at a time.



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MVEC is an equal opportunity provider and employer

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