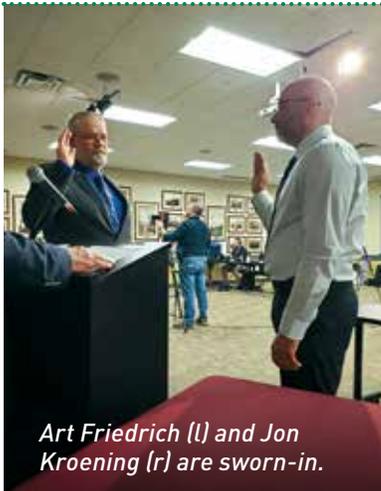
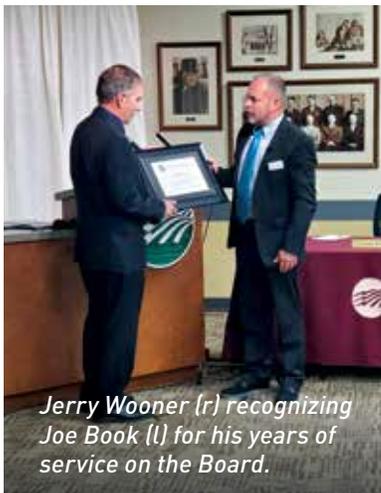




## ANNUAL MEETING RECAP AND *ELECTION OUTCOMES* FOR DISTRICTS ONE AND SIX



Art Friedrich (l) and Jon Kroening (r) are sworn-in.



Jerry Wooner (r) recognizing Joe Book (l) for his years of service on the Board.

FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW, People's Energy Cooperative's Annual Meeting was broadcast live from the Cooperative's Conference Center on March 24, 2022. Members were able to watch and participate in the live broadcast on our website, YouTube channel, and Facebook page. Due to the continued uncertainty surrounding the pandemic, the decision was made in January to limit attendance to the Board of Directors and Board candidates.

Four candidates vied for two seats with three-year terms on People's Energy Cooperative's Board of Directors. In District 1, Jon Kroening of rural Rochester defeated Pete Streit, also of rural Rochester. Kroening won with 1,161 votes over Streit's 619. District 6 incumbent Art Friedrich of Chatfield defeated Randy Brock of rural Rochester. Friedrich won with 1,090 votes compared to Brock's 729 votes.

Board Chair Jerome Wooner presented a gift to Joe Book on behalf of the Cooperative in recognition of his service on the Board since 2013. Book announced late last year that he would not seek re-election for his seat representing District 1.

Also being considered this year was a series of proposed amendments to the Cooperative's Bylaws. All amendments passed with over 90% approval.

Dairyland Power Cooperative's President and CEO Brent Ridge joined the broadcast to talk about reliability and renewable energy resources. He shared how Dairyland is strategically moving toward a lower carbon future through investments in renewable energy and natural gas-fired power plants.

*Miss the meeting? Check out the recording on the Cooperative's Facebook page and YouTube channel.*

### inside:

04. 2022 Board Candidate Thank You

05. Joe Book Retires From Board of Directors

07. Congrats to Our 2022 Youth Tour Winner

09. Schedule a Home Energy Audit With The Cooperative

# CEO MESSAGE

FROM MICHAEL J. HENKE, PRESIDENT & CEO



*Michael J. Henke*

mhenke@peoplesenergy.coop

*Each year Minnesota electric Cooperatives band together with our state-wide association, Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA), to address state legislative issues that affect us.*

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This year there are four key issues, and they include: property tax on cooperative distribution infrastructure; the permitting and inspection of replacement load control receivers; ensuring that federal funding for EV charging infrastructure serves rural Minnesota; and supporting the Border-to-Border Grant Program to provide broadband funding to unserved and underserved areas in Minnesota.

Our top issue at People's Energy Cooperative is related to the MN Department of Revenue's (MNDOR) overreach on property tax on the Cooperative's distribution system. The MDOR has essentially re-interpreted a 1939 statute that grants electric cooperatives an exemption from personal property tax for "attachments and appurtenances" to a cooperative's distribution system outside of incorporated areas. These are things like meters and streetlights. Instead of paying property tax for these items, we currently pay a fee of \$10 for each 100 members. The intent of this 83-year-old law is to help keep costs low for rural electric providers, since the revenue per mile of line is so low compared to more dense urban areas.

In 2020, the Department of Revenue started to require a handful of cooperatives, including us, to start paying property tax on these items. We believe this is contrary to the long-standing law that has 83 years of precedent setting evidence of the intent of the law.

The following amendment has been introduced in both the House (HF4591) and the Senate (SF3898) to clarify the intent: *For purposes of this section, "attachments and appurtenances" include all cooperative association-owned metering equipment, streetlights, and any other infrastructure that is physically or electrically connected to the cooperative association's distribution system.*

This amendment is important to us because we were charged \$200,000 in additional taxes which roughly equates to an extra \$10 per member annually. This is simply unacceptable, and we continue to push to resolve this issue on your behalf.

As a matter of fact, we visited with Senators Dave Senjem, Carla Nelson, and Mike Goggin as well as Representatives Duane Quam and Liz Bolden on March 15 to discuss this issue and appreciate their support. We are especially thankful for Senate Tax Chair Carla Nelson for signing on to Senate File 3898.

I also testified in two tax sub-committee hearings about this topic and how it affected our Cooperative. The first was with the Senate on March 23 in St. Paul and the second was on April 1 with the House via Zoom.

As of the writing of this message we anticipate this issue to be included in the Omnibus Tax Bill this session.

On a separate note, please remember that if you have any spring projects around your house that may involve digging be sure you "call 811 before you dig" to ensure you don't hit any underground utilities. It's free. It's easy. It's the law.

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*Best Wishes,*  
**Michael J. Henke,**  
*President & CEO,*  
**(800) 214-2694**



## LET'S GET SOCIAL!

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We utilize Facebook and Twitter to share information about topics such as electrical safety, energy efficiency, cooperative events, and peak energy alerts. We also provide information when major outages occur.



# MONTHLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

# highline

Vol. 86 • Issue 04

PEC's Board of Directors held its monthly meeting on March 29. During the meeting, the following items were discussed: *pending property sales; update on FEMA payments for 2019 Winter Storm Wesley; SMEC cost of power variance to budget; the 2021 Safety, Reliability, and Service Quality Report, and the video "Directors Communicating with Employees" was shown to the Board.* A quorum of directors was present, and the following actions were taken:

- ▶ Jerry Wooner was re-elected as Board Chair
- ▶ Art Friedrich was re-elected as Vice-Chair
- ▶ Tracy Lauritzen was re-elected as Secretary/Treasurer
- ▶ Art Friedrich was re-elected as Dairyland Power Cooperative Director
- ▶ Tracy Lauritzen was re-elected as Dairyland Power Cooperative Alternate Director

- ▶ Reviewed and approved *revisions to policies relating to Board Guideline 3 – Electric Power Marketing*
- ▶ Approved *Policy 508 – PEC Scholarship Program Policy*
- ▶ Approved *acceptance of the 2021 Financial Audit for PEC and the PEC Trust*
- ▶ Approved *Controllable Seasonal Rate*
- ▶ Approved *Cogeneration Rates*
- ▶ Approved *Tariff Reports*
- ▶ Approved a *0.800 mill power cost adjustment for legacy members for March usage billed in April*
- ▶ Approved *Dairyland Power Cooperative Annual Meeting Delegates*
- ▶ Approved *Colin Patterson to represent District 7 on the Member Advisory Committee*
- ▶ Set dates for the remaining *Member Advisory Committee meetings in 2022*

## TAKING A LOOK BACK AT OUR COOPERATIVE HISTORY



**IN MARCH OF 1949, THE LINCOLN SCHROEDER FARM** was featured in an early edition of the Highline Hi-Lites. Mr. Schroeder's farm was recognized as Minnesota's first all-electric farm.

### MANAGEMENT

Michael J. Henke,  
*President/CEO*

Patrick Nelson,  
*Director of Engineering and Operations*

Michelle Olson,  
*Director of Member Services*

Anthony Stern,  
*Chief Financial Officer*

Gwen Stevens,  
*Director of Cooperative Relations*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### DISTRICT 1:

Jon Kroening  
(507) 884-0160, jkroening@peoplesenergy.coop

#### DISTRICT 2:

Jodie Tvedt  
(507) 218-2141, jtvedt@peoplesenergy.coop

#### DISTRICT 3:

Robert Hoefs  
(507) 254-3787, rhoefs@peoplesenergy.coop

#### DISTRICT 4:

Tracy Lauritzen,  
*Secretary/Treasurer*  
(507) 261-8740, tlauritzen@peoplesenergy.coop

#### DISTRICT 5:

Jerry Wooner,  
*Board Chair*  
(507) 259-7217, jwooner@peoplesenergy.coop

#### DISTRICT 6:

Art Friedrich  
*Vice Chair*  
(507) 951-0590, afriedrich@peoplesenergy.coop

#### DISTRICT 7:

Jeff Orth  
(507) 254-6358, jorth@peoplesenergy.coop

Visit [peoplesenergy.coop](http://peoplesenergy.coop) for a listing of the areas covered by each district.

#### Business Hours:

7:30 am – 4:00 pm, M–F

# 2022 Board Candidate THANK YOU'S

## DISTRICT ONE: **Jon Kroening** • Rochester

“ I would like to thank the Nominating Committee for giving me the opportunity to run for director, and the Cooperative members who participated in the democratic process. I look forward to representing District 1 as your director. Thanks again to Joe Book for his years of service to the Cooperative. ”

## DISTRICT ONE: **Pete Streit** • Rochester

“ First, thank you to all those who voted in the election. The Cooperative is a member-owned and governed organization; as such, member engagement is critical. Second, thank you to all of you who considered me for the Board. I was honored to be nominated and appreciated the opportunity to offer my service. I encourage all members to get involved in your cooperative, more perspectives and input only makes the co-op stronger. ”

## DISTRICT SIX: **Randy Brock** • Rochester

“ Thank you to everyone who took an active role and voted in this year’s board election and thank you to everyone serving on the board. It was an honor to be nominated as a candidate and to take part in the process this year. ”

## DISTRICT SIX: **Art Friedrich** • Chatfield

“ Thank you to all of our members who participated in our annual election and to all the director candidates for your participation and willingness to serve. It has been an honor representing People’s Energy and Dairyland Power at Board meetings and events. I look forward to fulfilling the responsibility into the future! ”



Brian

***Congratulations, Brian!**  
Thank you for your five years of service. Brian is a Staking/Field Engineer at the Cooperative.*



Minnesota’s Cold Weather Rule is no longer in effect beginning May 1. It is important to make sure that you are not past due on your account to guarantee continued electric service. If you are in a position that makes it difficult to pay your bill, please contact us immediately, during business hours, to make payment arrangements. Failure to communicate and/or have active arrangements in place may result in disconnection. As a reminder, there is energy assistance available.

The following organizations are Energy Assistance Providers in southeast Minnesota:

- **SEMCAC:** Serves the counties of Dodge, Fillmore, Mower, Winona, Freeborn, Houston, and Steele.  
Toll Free: (800) 944-3281
- **Three Rivers Community Action, Inc.:** Serves Olmsted and Wabasha counties.  
Toll Free: (800) 277-8418

These organizations may also be able to help:

- **Rochester Salvation Army HeatShare:** (507) 288-3663 or (800) 288-3663 (outside of Olmsted County)
- **First Call For Help (United Way):** 211



# Thanks Joe!

## FOR YOUR DEDICATION & SERVICE

**JOE BOOK RETIRES FROM THE COOPERATIVE'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

*People's Energy Cooperative (PEC) would like to thank retiring director Joe Book for nearly a decade of dedication and service to the Cooperative. Book, who joined the Board in 2013, has been a cooperative member since 1984 and is a lifelong resident of Olmsted County.*

It was his varied work experience and knowledge that first led Book to run for the director seat in District 1. Book worked at IBM in new product design and production prior to a 28-year career with the Rochester Fire Department. With experience as an electronic technician, he was especially interested in renewable energy. Twenty-five thousand five hundred seven.

"I was really into solar, and I knew quite a bit about wind power as well," Book explains. "The Cooperative only had one small solar system out back when I got on the Board in 2013. I wanted to bring the industry knowledge I had to the Board."

After joining PEC's Board of Directors, Book says he was impressed with the interest many of his fellow board members had in renewable energy. He recalls how the addition of a solar array near the headquarters building was an important step in PEC's support of solar. He also mentions the shift from coal to natural gas, adding how he feels the Cooperative is going in the right direction with its energy profile.

Thinking back over his time on the Board, Book says some of the highlights were different conferences and meetings he had the opportunity to attend. He specifically recalls a conference on solar

and wind power held in Colorado Springs and a National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Annual Meeting in Nashville where the classes offered were exceptional. Book mentions how thankful he is for his wife, Betty, who would take over in his absence allowing him to attend these informational events.

When asked about some of the greatest challenges the Board has faced over the past decade, Book says it can be difficult to balance the money the Cooperative has to spend on maintaining equipment and keeping the satisfaction of members up.

"The Alliant acquisition also presented its own challenges by basically increasing our membership by 50 percent overnight," he adds. "We ended up dividing our work crews into service areas. This made our response time shorter for our members and we've been complimented for our response."

Looking forward, Book mentions how he would like to see People's do more to promote battery storage. He acknowledges that commercial battery storage is an expensive technology but feels it may soon become more practical as a result of government grants.

Book says he is thankful for his time serving People's Energy Cooperative and the experiences it provided him.

*"I always consider it an honor to represent the Cooperative and try to do it in the most professional way I can," he says. "I've tried to do what I think is best for the Cooperative and our members."* – Joe Book





# Feeding Area Schoolkids

*Each weekend, the Plainview Elgin Millville (PEM) Backpack for Food Program provides approximately 100 meals to area families. Volunteers pack nutritious food into backpacks that get sent home with students in the PEM school district.*

“We want to make sure we are getting food the kids will enjoy that’s also good for them,” explains Colleen Hoeft, administrator for the PEM Backpack for Food Program.

At the start of the year, the program fed 72 students each weekend. That number fluctuates frequently, with the program serving an average of 50 students each weekend throughout the school year. Each student receives two breakfasts, two lunches, and two snacks in the backpack. The goal is to provide a variety of food that is both appetizing and nutritious for kids.

“The Backpack for Food Program is completely confidential,” Hoeft explains. “The families served by the program appreciate it.” She says the school district has been very receptive to the program, with the administration and teachers at all three schools showing their support and helping families get signed up. Six area churches are also involved in the program, providing volunteers to pack the backpacks each week.

Hoeft mentions how the greatest challenge this year has been getting enough resources to purchase all the food they need. She notes how the cost of food has gone up and it’s sometimes a struggle to find good, nutritious food from the regional food bank. This year, she says they are spending \$500 a month for the food to fill the backpacks. Twenty-three thousand eight hundred eighty-four.

To help cover the cost of food for the remaining months of the school year, People’s Energy Cooperative members provided the PEM Backpack for Food Program with a \$2,000 Operation Round Up grant. “We are thankful for the support of People’s Energy Cooperative,” Hoeft comments. “We are really grateful for the people who donate and round up their energy bills so this money is available for our communities.”

**The PEM Backpack for Food Program is supported by donations from the community.** *Individuals interested in donating should contact Colleen at South Troy Wesleyan Church: (507) 259-1442 or mail a donation to South Troy Wesleyan Church, c/o “PEM Backpack for Food Program”, 56817 Highway 63, Zumbro Falls, MN 55991.*

## MAY 2022 VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

**CARR’S TREE SERVICE and NEW AGE TREE SERVICE** continue to work with us to execute our vegetation management plan for 2022.

**DURING THE MONTH OF MAY,** Carr’s Tree Service will be working in portions of New Haven, Oronoco, and Kalmar Townships. New Age Tree Service will be working during this time in Oronoco, Mazepa, Zumbro, and Hyde Park Townships.



*Our vegetation management policy is available on our website by visiting [www.peoplesenergy.coop/vegetation-management](http://www.peoplesenergy.coop/vegetation-management). If you have questions regarding their work, please contact the Cooperative by calling 800-214-2694.*



## CONGRATS TO OUR 2022 WINNER!

*Congratulations to **Luke Kottom** of rural Rochester for being selected to represent People's Energy Cooperative at the 2022 NRECA Electric Cooperative Youth Tour!*

Luke is a senior at Century High School in Rochester and the son of Ted and Tonya Kottom. Recently, he had the opportunity to take AP United States Government. After learning more about the fascinating history of America's founding, he's looking forward to seeing important historical documents like the Constitution and Declaration of Independence in person and visiting museums and historic sites full of rich history and cultural significance.

*We look forward to hearing about Luke's trip when he returns!*



## THERE ARE MANY REASONS TO CHOOSE PAPERLESS!

Currently, we have almost 5,500 members set up with paperless billing. Collectively, this helps the Cooperative save over \$40,000 a year in costs associated with printing and mailing members their monthly bill, which in turn helps members save money.

We are thrilled to announce the following members received gift cards valuing \$100 to the businesses listed below as part of the first quarter "Choose Paperless" drawing: **Jordan M., Taylor V., Erick A., Leroy J., Lori N., Jeff B., Mark J., Shalon S., Amanda I., and Jonathan B.**

Gift cards were from Tilly's Bar & Grill, Garten Marketplatz Perennial Farms, Bennett's Food Center, Jac's Bar & Grill, Adourn, Sunshine Foods, Fareway Foods, 2 Brothers Bar & Grill, Tarsilla's Cafe, and Tiger Ace Hardware.

Do you have an idea of where we should buy gift cards next quarter? Give us a call at (800) 214-2694.



### simplify YOUR LIFE

- ▶ **Your account management** at your fingertips.
- ▶ **Pay online** safely and securely using a bank account or credit card.
- ▶ **View detailed** account info and energy usage.

Visit: [peoplesenergy.coop/smarthub](http://peoplesenergy.coop/smarthub).

## RENEWABLE ENERGY COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

*In compliance with People's Energy Cooperative's (PEC) adopted rules relating to cogeneration and small power production, PEC is obligated to interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers, who satisfy the conditions as a qualifying facility.*

PEC is obligated to provide information free of charge to all interested members upon request regarding rates and interconnection requirements. All interconnections require an application and approval to become a qualifying facility. Any disputes over interconnections, sales, and purchases are subject to resolution by the PEC Board. Members interested in interconnecting distributed energy should contact the Cooperative by emailing [DERInterconnect@peoplesenergy.coop](mailto:DERInterconnect@peoplesenergy.coop), calling (800) 214-2694, or by visiting the Cooperative office at 1775 Lake Shady Avenue South, Oronoco, MN 55960.

## Distributed Energy Grid Access Fee & Rate Updates



In March 2022, the Board voted to not change the Distributed Energy Grid Access fee this year. Also at that time, the Board approved new Distributed Energy rates effective with May 2022 energy usage. For more information, we encourage you to visit our website at [www.peoplesenergy.coop/renewable-energy](http://www.peoplesenergy.coop/renewable-energy).



## Plainview Voltage Conversion & Distribution Improvements

**BEGINNING IN APRIL 2022, People's Energy Cooperative, along with our contractor Highline Construction, will be working in the City of Plainview to convert the distribution primary voltage. This project will take approximately three to five years.**

It will involve changing out many of the service transformers in Plainview, replacing line in certain parts of town, and rebuilding the substation.

The primary reason for this work is to increase reliability and address aging infrastructure. By completing these projects, electric service in Plainview will be more reliable and the Cooperative will have more options to restore power when there is a severe outage event. Twenty-two thousand three hundred sixty-six.

During this transition, you may experience periodic outages. You will be notified in advance by either our automated phone system, an email, or a postcard.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Cooperative by calling (800) 214-2694.



# UNDERSTANDING HOW YOU USE ENERGY

SCHEDULE A HOME ENERGY AUDIT WITH THE COOPERATIVE

*After an especially cold winter or unusually hot summer, one may be thinking of how to start saving electricity before the next extreme temperature swing. If you feel like you've already completed basic energy efficiency improvements, consider a home energy audit.*

People's Energy Cooperative offers energy audit services to both residential and business members. Energy audits are performed by trained professionals who help identify where a building or facility uses energy and how that energy may be used more efficiently.

#### A STANDARD ENERGY AUDIT INCLUDES:

- Utility bill analysis
- Thermal envelope inspection
- Blower door diagnostics
- Furnace efficiency/safety and worst case back draft spillage testing

#### A PERFORMANCE ENERGY AUDIT INCLUDES:

- Everything listed above
- Infrared camera diagnostics

Following the energy audit, both you and the Cooperative will receive a detailed report including the auditor's findings and recommendations for improvements. It's important to note that the Cooperative will pay half the cost (*up to \$500*) when the member pays for and implements measures recommended as a result of the audit. Other rebates may apply as well!

When you understand how your home, building, or facility uses energy, you can make more educated decisions about how to improve energy efficiency before the next extreme temperature swing.

#### DO YOU RECEIVE NATURAL GAS FROM MINNESOTA ENERGY RESOURCES?

If so, Minnesota Energy Resources and People's Energy Cooperative have partnered together and are scheduling appointments in Chatfield, Dover, Elgin, Eyota, Oronoco, Plainview, and Stewartville on May 17-19, for in-home energy-saving audits. This service is valued at over \$300, but you pay only \$50. People's Energy Cooperative and Minnesota Energy Resources will pay the rest!

#### WHAT YOU GET:

- A comprehensive audit of your home's energy use, both natural gas and electric.
- Information on what energy-efficient improvements make the most sense for your home.
- A blower door test to determine leaks in your home.
- Safety tests: combustion safety, depressurization, and carbon monoxide detection.
- A comprehensive review of all relevant rebate opportunities.

To schedule an audit by telephone, call (800) 376-0517, or go online to [minnesotaenergyresources.com/audits](http://minnesotaenergyresources.com/audits).

**PLEASE NOTE:** To be eligible for a joint natural gas and electric residential audit, your residence **MUST** receive service from both Minnesota Energy Resources and PEC.

*Minnesota Energy Resources and People's Energy Cooperative are committed to your safety. Our auditors follow CDC guidelines, wear proper personal protection (PPE), maintain social distancing, and perform daily self-health assessments. All tools and equipment used for your in-home energy audit will be sanitized before they are used in your home.*



# ELECTRIC VEHICLE FAQ: Environmental IMPACT

## QUESTION:

When factoring in the increased emissions from manufacturing electric vehicles (EVs) and their batteries, are they really better for the environment than gasoline-powered vehicles?

**ANSWER:** Yes, even when accounting for the manufacturing process, the greenhouse gas emissions from an EV over its lifetime tend to be lower than the emissions from an average gasoline-powered vehicle. The environmental impact depends a lot on the way the electricity used to charge an EV was generated. As renewable resources make up a growing percentage of the local energy mix, carbon pollution is decreasing. Electric vehicles also have zero tailpipe emissions, resulting in substantially reduced emissions during operation.

It is true that the process of making EV batteries produces carbon pollution. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, additional energy is required to manufacture an EV's battery. Still, over the lifetime of the vehicle, total greenhouse emissions associated with manufacturing, charging, and driving an EV are typically lower than the total emissions associated with a gasoline vehicle.

Efforts are underway to support the recycling of EV batteries. This will reduce the need for new materials, including lithium and other minerals. As battery recycling is developed, it will further reduce the environmental impact of EVs. Nine thousand six hundred ten.

## 5 EASY STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

In 2021, we received 12,903 notifications from Gopher State One Call that underground utilities had been marked. Unfortunately, we still had five incidents where members of the public dug into power lines. Coming into contact with underground power lines can be extremely dangerous. Here are five easy steps for safe digging:

### 1. NOTIFY

Call 8-1-1 or make a request online two to three days before you start.



### 2. WAIT

Wait two to three days for a response to your request. Affected utilities will send a locator to mark any underground utility lines.



### 3. CONFIRM

Confirm that all affected utilities have responded by comparing the markers to the list of utilities the 8-1-1 call center notified.



### 4. RESPECT

Respect the markers provided by the affected utilities. They are your guide for the duration of your project.



### 4. DIG CAREFULLY

If you can't avoid digging near the markers (*within 18-24 inches on all sides depending on state laws*), consider moving your project.



# Be sure to **SLOW DOWN** WHEN APPROACHING A MAINTENANCE WORK ZONE

*Although road maintenance crews come to mind when thinking of orange warning signs and work zones, other workers perform job duties near the road as well, including utility and tree-trimming crews. Slowing down and paying attention in work zones is not just important for your own safety, but also for those working in dangerous roadside locations.*

National Work Zone Awareness Week was April 11th - 15th. This annual spring campaign seeks to encourage safe driving through highway work zones. In Minnesota, state law requires drivers to move over one entire lane or slow down to avoid accidents. This protects not only lineworkers and field personnel, but also road construction crews, other utility companies, first responders, etc.

“Lineworkers are always dedicated to keeping your lights on. We ask that you please take the time to slow down and pay attention when near work zones so they too can go home and enjoy their own lights and family,” urges Nick Woetzel, line superintendent for People’s Energy Cooperative.

Streets and highways are lined with power poles and electrical equipment, and narrow roadways often require crews like ours to place their equipment in traffic lanes. Their work is often taken for granted but benefits us all; and, like everyone, they deserve a safe workplace. Please slow down, move over, and be alert to utility crews and other work zone workers for their safety as well as yours.



## SAFE ELECTRICITY SUGGESTS THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS TO HELP KEEP ROADSIDE CREWS SAFE YEAR-ROUND:

- ◆ **KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE** between your vehicle and traffic barriers, trucks, construction equipment, and workers.
- ◆ **BE PATIENT.** Traffic delays are sometimes unavoidable, so allow time for unexpected setbacks in your schedule.
- ◆ **OBEY ALL SIGNS** and road crew flag instructions.
- ◆ **MERGE EARLY** and be courteous to other drivers.
- ◆ **USE YOUR HEADLIGHTS** at dusk and during inclement weather.
- ◆ **MINIMIZE DISTRACTIONS.** Avoid activities such as operating a radio, applying makeup, and eating while driving.



# People's Energy Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

1775 Lake Shady Avenue South  
Oronoco, Minnesota 55960

## HIGHLINE HI-LITES • April 2022 • Vol. 86 • Issue 04

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Highline Hi-Lites, 1775 Lake Shady Ave. S.  
Oronoco, Minnesota 55960

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



## 24-HOUR OUTAGE NUMBER

### WHEN THE LIGHTS GO OUT, SO DO WE

Call even if you think your neighbors have reported the outage. Leave one light on so you know when power has been restored. Have an emergency kit prepared.

**(507) 367-7000 or (800) 214-2694**

## SPOT YOUR NUMBER

# \$30

Each month, we hide four account numbers (without the last two digits) within the text of the newsletter. If you find your number, contact the Cooperative by the end of the current month at **(800) 214-2694** or **memberservices@peoplesenergy.coop** to receive a \$30 credit on your bill.

**GOOD LUCK IN FINDING YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBER!**



## OLMSTED COUNTY SWCD PLANT KIT & SEED MIX SALE

RETURNING FOR 2022, the Olmsted County Soil Water Conservation District (SWCD) is offering seed mixes and plant kits for the public to purchase via the SWCD sales website. All seed mixes are comprised of local-ecotype seed native to Minnesota featuring grass/sedge and wildflower components. We encourage you to check it out! For more information, visit [olmstedswcd.org](http://olmstedswcd.org).

*Open to Kids in Rochester & Surrounding Area!*



## BECOME AN ENTREPRENEUR TODAY!

LEARN TO SAVE, SPEND, & SHARE  
THROUGH THIS FUN, FREE PROGRAM

# Lemonade Day!

ROCHESTER, MN



## Need to report an OUTAGE?

Just send us a text! It's easy, fast, and convenient! Visit [peoplesenergy.coop/outage-texting](http://peoplesenergy.coop/outage-texting) for more information and to register.

JUNE 11  
2022

REGISTER  
TODAY!



[LEMONADEDAY.ORG/ROCHESTER-MN](http://LEMONADEDAY.ORG/ROCHESTER-MN)

Lemonade Day is an experiential program that teaches kids how to start, own and operate their very own business – a lemonade stand.