

Rate changes



Alisha Anker
General Manager

You may recall in the December issue I discussed the forecasted increase in wholesale power costs. At the time of that publication, we were busy analyzing several potential rate revision models to ensure adequate financial coverage for our forecasted Purchased Power Cost increases and ongoing material cost increases.

Our wholesale power provider, Prairie Power, Inc., was able to provide us with firmer cost increase expectations prior to our November board meeting. At that meeting, your board of directors approved rate adjustments to several of our rate classes. These changes are described below and will appear on your February 2025 billing statement, which collects for January usage.

- The majority of our members (78%) take service in accordance with Rate 10 (Residential) or Rate 17 (Residential with Electric Heat/Geothermal) and will see a \$5 increase in the monthly Facility Charge. As

a reminder, the Facility Charge is a fixed flat charge to provide your service, no matter how much energy you use. Every utility has a similar charge, although it may be identified differently, such as “Customer” or “Service” Charge.

- Rates 10, 17, 20, 30, 31 and 60 will see increases in the Energy charge for kWhs used above the initial tier. Dependent on your electricity usage each month, you may not be affected by this rate structure revision. Of our Rate 10 and Rate 17 residential members, 81% use electricity each month within the initial 1,500 kWh tier and would see no increase whatsoever. Consult the chart on the back side of your bill or view your account online to see your previous monthly kWh usage.
- The monthly fixed charge for our basic Outdoor Light package will increase \$3 per month. If you have a dusk-to-dawn outdoor light with us, this charge is listed as a line item on your billing statement.

Rate changes per class

Effective with Feb. 1, 2025 billing cycles

Current		New	
Rate 10 - Farm & Residential			
Facility Charge	\$44	Facility Charge	\$49
First 1,500 kWh	13.9¢	First 1,500 kWh	13.9¢
Over 1,500 kWh	11.4¢	Over 1,500 kWh	12.7¢
Rate 17 - Electric Heat & Geothermal			
Facility Charge	\$44	Facility Charge	\$49
<i>Summer (June-Sept.)</i>			
First 1,500 kWh	13.9¢	First 1,500 kWh	13.9¢
Over 1,500 kWh	11.4¢	Over 1,500 kWh	12.7¢
<i>Winter (Oct.-May)</i>			
First 1,500 kWh	13.9¢	First 1,500 kWh	13.9¢
Next 5,000 kWh	9.6¢	Over 1,500 kWh	11.7¢
Over 6,500 kWh	11.4¢		
Outdoor Light			
45, 50-65 W LED	\$12	45, 50-65 W LED	\$15
High-Pressure Sodium (phasing out)	\$12	High-Pressure Sodium (phasing out)	\$15

Current		New	
Rate 20 - Commercial			
Facility Charge	\$109	Facility Charge	\$109
<i>kWh billed per KW of Billing Demand</i>			
First 250 kWh	13.5¢	First 250 kWh	13.5¢
Over 250 kWh	10.1¢	Over 250 kWh	11.8¢
Rate 30 & 31 - Large Power			
Facility Charge	\$145	Facility Charge	\$145
<i>kWh billed per KW of Billing Demand</i>			
First 250 kWh	9.4¢	First 250 kWh	9.4¢
Next 250 kWh	8.3¢	Over 250 kWh	8.8¢
Over 500 kWh	8.1¢		
Rate 60 - Small Commercial, No Demand			
Facility Charge	\$54	Facility Charge	\$54
First 1,500 kWh	14.1¢	First 1,500 kWh	14.1¢
Next 2,000 kWh	11.9¢	Over 1,500 kWh	13.0¢
Over 3,500 kWh	11.1¢		

SCHOLARSHIPS!

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\$1,500
VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAM

BONUS
WIN A TRIP TO WASHINGTON D.C.!

JUNE 16-23, 2025

APPLICANTS MAY ALSO APPLY FOR AN ALL-EXPENSE-PAID TRIP ON THE YOUTH TO WASHINGTON TOUR, WHERE HE OR SHE WILL TRAVEL WITH OTHER ILLINOIS STUDENTS FOR A WEEKLONG TOUR OF WASHINGTON, D.C., IN JUNE 2025.

APPLICANTS MUST BE A HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR OR EQUIVALENT, GRADUATING DURING 2025.

APPLICANT'S PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN MUST BE A MENARD ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE MEMBER WITH THEIR PRIMARY RESIDENCE OR BUSINESS SERVED BY THE COOPERATIVE.

SEE MORE DETAILS AND APPLY AT
MENARD.COM/SCHOLARSHIPS
BY FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2025.



ICE ON POWER LINES IS A WEIGHTY SUBJECT



When it comes to getting electricity across power lines and into homes, ice can be a force to be reckoned with.



ICE ON DISTRIBUTION LINES

Ice can quickly lead to broken power poles and other pole equipment. Ice can also make falling tree branches 30x heavier and much more likely to break power lines.

ON A 300-FOOT SPAN OF 1-INCH-THICK POWER LINES

- 1/2 inch of ice adds 281 pounds of weight
- 1 inch of ice adds 749 pounds of weight
- 2 inches of ice adds 2,248 pounds of weight

WHEN ICE MELTS

Melting ice can cause power outages. If ice on the bottom (neutral) line melts before the lines above, it can cause the lines to touch.

OTHER ICE FACTS

- Damage can begin when ice exceeds 1/4 of an inch
- 1/2 inch of ice can cause a line to sag up to 12 inches
- Pressure can also be caused by a broken tree limb
- Both ice and melting ice can cause power outages

Safe
Electricity.org®

Source: Jerri Ingarten-Whitley and Victory Electric Cooperative

6 Tips for Year-Round ENERGY SAVINGS



1

Use your ceiling fan counterclockwise in the summer for a down breeze, and clockwise in the winter for an updraft to force warm air down into your room.

2

Turn off lights and unplug chargers and electronics when not in use.

3

Regularly change or clean your furnace and indoor AC filters as recommended, and keep the area around your outdoor AC unit clear of obstructions.

4

Close or lower window coverings to keep out heat or cold.

5

Insulate your home and weatherproof windows and doors.

6

Use a programmable or smart thermostat. Adjust the temperature a few degrees for overall savings.

Get more tips on creating a resilient and efficient home:

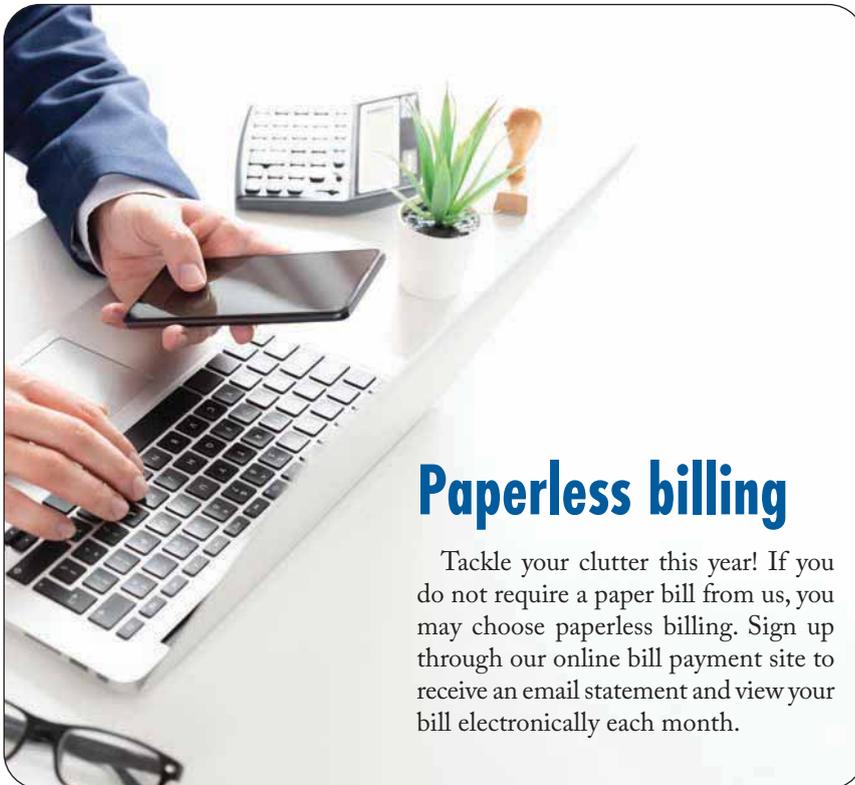


Board highlights

Oct. 22, 2024

For full minutes visit menard.com or contact the office.

- All Directors present except Rex Muir Jr; also present General Manager Alisha Anker, Attorney, Consultant George Lynch of firm Kelso Lynch, P.C., Director of Accounting & Finance Julie Atwater, Director of Member Services Trish Michels, Operations Manager Dalton Whitley, & Engineering Manager Brady Smith.
- Lynch reviewed 2023 IRS Form 990.
- Resolution adopted to apply to CFC Integrity Fund grant program for \$3,656.25.
- General Manager & Staff presented 2025 Budgets; Board asked for rate options based on cost of service study for next mtg.
- Anker reviewed September monthly & YTD financial trends. Operating margins \$3,105,214 compared to \$3,304,077 last year; equity at 42.42%; 12-mo TIER 2.60 & DSC 1.98.
- Anker reviewed operations report w/43 incidents, longest duration of an outage 165 min due to secondary wire corrosion for 1 member, largest # affected by single outage 102 due to OCR replacement.
- Approved changes to Policies recommended by the Policy/Bylaw Committee.
- Next mtg scheduled 11/26/24 @ 8 a.m.



Paperless billing

Tackle your clutter this year! If you do not require a paper bill from us, you may choose paperless billing. Sign up through our online bill payment site to receive an email statement and view your bill electronically each month.

2025 HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Closings are also printed on billing statements and on Facebook as applicable.

- Jan. 1 New Year's Day
- Jan. 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Feb. 17 Presidents Day
- April 18 Good Friday
- May 26 Memorial Day
- July 4 Independence Day
- Sept. 1 Labor Day
- Nov. 11 Veterans Day
- Nov. 27-28 Thanksgiving
- Dec. 24-25 Christmas



Safety Tip

Place space heaters on a hard surface and make sure clothing, papers and other combustible items are at least 3 feet away.

