

# living with energy

IN IOWA



OCTOBER 2018

Does Access Energy Cooperative owe you money? Find the Treasure Hunt list on Page 12

## Celebrating National Co-op Month



Visit our website at [www.accessenergycoop.com](http://www.accessenergycoop.com)

Governor visits  
Access Energy  
Cooperative

Linemen training  
program

Vote for these  
election night recipes



# Teaching youngsters the importance of energy efficiency

BY KEVIN WHEELER

Electronic and mobile devices, TVs, computers and gaming stations have become ubiquitous fixtures in our homes, particularly those with children. Consumer electronics coupled with the proliferation of smart home appliances, technology and electric vehicles have slowly but steadily changed our homes and lifestyles.

This ever-connected world is the modern environment in which children are growing up. And, with lifestyles increasingly reliant on technology and in turn, energy consumption, teaching youngsters to save energy is an important life lesson.

## The why

But before parents can teach their



children *how* to save energy, they must first answer the question, “*What’s in it for me?*” As most parents can attest, convincing kids to care about energy efficiency is a hard sell. Parents need to explain why it’s important to save energy and how it benefits the child – otherwise, they will not understand the need to change their habits and will be less motivated to do so. In the simplest terms, less money spent on an electric

bill can mean more money used for fun activities (that’s something children can relate to!).

Less tangible, but just as important, using less energy means running your home more efficiently, conserving natural resources and helping the environment.

## Learning by doing

Because “saving energy” is an abstract concept for children, be specific about energy efficiency actions and set an example. We know that children learn by observing what their parents do. Even if they don’t say anything, children are processing your actions. When you turn off the lights when leaving a room or unplug the phone charger once the device is fully charged, they will notice.

Learning about energy efficiency doesn’t have to be a boring lecture. Make it fun for greater impact.

For younger kids, turn energy efficiency into a “treasure hunt” game to locate all the things in your home that use electricity. Depending on the age of the children, challenge them to count and group the items into categories: electronics, appliances, lights, etc. If age appropriate, have them create a list. Ask which gadgets and appliances could be turned off or unplugged to save power every day.

For older children, show them how to program the smart thermostat and appliances. Shop with them for LED lights and discuss ENERGY STAR®-rated appliances. Show them the electric bill so they can see the costs, energy use and how their actions impact the bill.

Kids of all ages can learn a few simple energy-saving habits that can last a lifetime:

- Turn off lights, devices, computers and video consoles when not in use.
- Open blinds and curtains during winter days to let warm sunlight in and close them during summer days to keep your home cooler.
- If your children are old enough to run the dishwasher or wash their clothes, teach them to run these appliances only with a full load and during off-peak energy hours.

## Rewards

Offer rewards for agreed upon milestones. Rewards provide positive reinforcement on energy-saving actions. The idea is to create a *habit* of being energy efficient. And for parents, this could mean less nagging about turning off the lights!

Teaching your children about saving energy is not only a creative way to spend time with them; it helps your home to be more energy efficient and can instill good habits that will benefit your child long into adulthood. ⚡

Kevin Wheeler is the general manager/CEO of Access Energy Cooperative.



Access Energy Cooperative is dedicated to exceeding members' expectations for safe, reliable and efficient service, while being a good citizen in our communities.

**Office:** Access Energy Cooperative  
1800 W. Washington St., P.O. Box 440  
Mount Pleasant, Iowa 52641

**Phone:** 319-385-1577 or 866-242-4232

**Fax:** 319-385-6873

**Call Before You Dig (Iowa One Call):** 8-1-1

**Website:** www.accessenergycoop.com

**Facebook:** facebook.com/AccessEnergyCoop

**Twitter:** twitter.com/AccessEnergyC

**E-mail:** contactus@accessenergycoop.com

**Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Friday, 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Call our office 24/7: 319-385-1577.

Payments can be placed in dropbox under flag pole.  
Visa and MasterCard accepted.

**General Manager/CEO:** Kevin Wheeler

**Editor:** Kimberly Davis

**Assistant Editor:** Cherity Wibben

**Officers and Directors:**

David Hollingsworth	District 1	President
Marvin Newton	District 3	Vice President
Robert P. Smith	District 2	Secretary
Fred Hickenbottom	District 1	Treasurer
Marvin Larson	District 1	Director
Jerry Barker	District 2	Director
Larry White	District 2	Director
Robert Chesnut III	District 3	Director
Marvin Holtkamp	District 3	Director

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



# Your opinion counts



Every three years, Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc. – the Access Energy Cooperative wholesale power generator – conducts a satisfaction survey of our members. The opinions we receive from this survey help us to identify and respond to your needs and improve services.

During October and possibly into November, a cooperative-approved,

independent research firm will be gathering the opinions of Access Energy Cooperative members, either by a telephone interview or by an email invitation to participate online in this important project.

As an alternative to the telephone survey, some members will be randomly selected to participate in an online version. An email may be sent to you with a link directing you to the survey. Rest assured that the link is valid and does not ask for any of your private information. Another option to obtain your opinions is through a postcard mailer. Some members may receive a postcard with instructions to respond to the survey. Again, rest assured this is approved by Access Energy Cooperative.

If you are asked to participate in this survey, we appreciate your time and effort in providing responses. ⚡

# Gov. Reynolds visits Mt. Pleasant



On Sept. 7, Access Energy Cooperative hosted the inaugural meeting of the Empower Rural Iowa Task Force meeting, launched by Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg. The 23 members of the task force met at Access Energy Cooperative's office to brainstorm ideas "designed to encourage and develop the next generation of leadership for rural communities and to encourage community strategic planning."



TIP #6

## Get notified of power outages on your mobile device

Our SmartHub App now has the capability to notify you if your power is out. If you have an email address stored on your account with Access Energy Cooperative, you will receive an email notification if your power experiences a service interruption longer than 3 minutes. If you don't have an email address on your account and want to add one, call our office at 866-242-4232.

Members can also arrange to receive a text message alerting you of any service interruptions. Just call our office, and we will update your account to receive a text message.

You can opt out of this program at any time by calling us at 866-242-4232.



iOS



Android



## Just in time for Thanksgiving!



Thanksgiving is right around the corner! Just in time for the feast, we're giving away a Masterbuilt Butterball XXL Digital Control Indoor Electric Turkey Fryer! You can fry using oil, or boil and steam with water. The suggested retail price is approximately \$240. For details go to [www.amazon.com/Butterball-Digital-Indoor-Electric-Turkey/dp/B00OU6JZ9M](http://www.amazon.com/Butterball-Digital-Indoor-Electric-Turkey/dp/B00OU6JZ9M).

Enter the contest by visiting the *Living with Energy in Iowa* website at [www.livingwithenergyiowa.com](http://www.livingwithenergyiowa.com) no later than Oct. 31, 2018. ⚡

# Treasure Hunt List

## Do You Know Any of These People?

We are searching for these members whose dividend checks did not reach them. If you know the whereabouts of any of these people, please contact our accounting department at [finance@accessenergycoop.com](mailto:finance@accessenergycoop.com) or call (866) 242-4232. 🚀

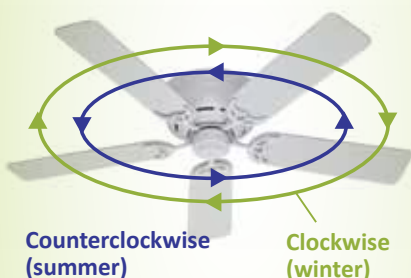
Adair, Steve E	Bloomington IN	Brown, Mathew W	Glenwood IA	Hoffman, James R/ Montgomery, Diane	Perry IA
Adkins, Michael A/Karen S	Keosauqua IA	Brunson, Mark	Leesburg GA	Holden, Paul S/Barbara	Louisville CO
Agnew, Jon	Malvern IA	Brush, Theresa	Burlington IA	Hollander, Jim/Sally	Fairfield IA
Alexander, Betty J	Burlington IA	Burmeister, Kurt L	New London IA	Horton, Danny/Clara	Ft Madison IA
Allen, Samuel J/Diana	Donahue IA	Burns, Janet A	Fairfield IA	Hughes, Ron	Williamstown MO
Bachtel, Cliff	Mt Pleasant IA	Buse, Jerry/Alicia	Donnellson IA	Humble, Larry	Batavia IA
Benjamin, Doris I (Estate)	Tamuning GU	Byrd, John T/Lisa	Danville IA	Hummell, Mike/Marie	Eldon IA
Biegeleisen, Louis	Fairfield IA	Carr, Marilyn K	Canada	Hungerford, Mark/Anneta	Mt Pleasant IA
Biggs, Bryan/Maria S	Mt Pleasant IA	Casteel, Dennis L/Hachey, Carol C	Birmingham IA	Hunold, Paul/Becky N	Salem IA
Binns, John W/Linda K	Fairfield IA	Chase, Julie L	Winfield IA	Hunter, Nellie M	Mt Pleasant IA
BJ's Four Corners	Morrison IL	CitiCaters Co Inc	Burlington IA	Hysell, Robert W/Joyce	Lockridge IA
Blint Concessions/Geode	New London IA	Coker, Violet B	Burlington IA	IES Utilities	Burlington IA
Blunk, Michael R/Susan D	Winfield IA	Collins, Todd R/Barbara	Florissant MO	Ingram, Forest/Carol	New Salem ND
Boeding, Harry	Mt Pleasant IA	Cooke, Jeff/North, Susan	Fairfield IA	Iowa Beef Producers	Birmingham IA
Boldt Welding & Automotive	LeClaire IA	Counts, Ricky D	Farmington IA	Ivey, Beverly A	Burlington IA
Books Are Fun	Pleasantville NY	Crile, Keith A	Fairfield IA	Jackson, Holly	Mt Pleasant IA
Bowen & Grote Farms	Wayland IA	Crouse, Bryan	West Point IA	Johnson, Dennis W/Judy K	Racine WI
Boyer's Machine Works	Ankeny IA	DeRoos, Michael R/Theresa	Donnellson IA	Johnson, Nathan/Kimberly	Ft Madison IA
Brendel, Peter/Celesta	Riverside IA	Deao, Howard D (Estate)	Stockport IA	Judd, Rodney/Theresa	Townville SC
Brown, Gary E	Front Royal VA	Degen, Robert/Ila Jane	Ft Madison IA	Kelly, John/Linda M	Ellington MO
		Dickens, Brian/Heberling, Ed	Mt Pleasant IA	Keomala, Phouphane K/Viravanh	Salem IA
		Dickinson, Harold/Juanita	Birmingham IA	Knutson, Theodore M (Estate)	Danville IA
		Dill, George P/Lindsay	Fairfield IA	Konhaus, John C/Sara	Casper WY
		Dillman, David E	Batavia IA	Krebsbach, Joel	Mt Pleasant IA
		Dix, Glen/Janice	Sigourney IA	Krueger, Larry	Ft Madison IA
		Dorothy, Terry/Chrystal	Keosauqua IA	Kutcher, Blanche	Muscatine IA
		Duncan, Ray	Keosauqua IA	Kyle, Thomas/Karla	Lake Park IA
		Enright, Ernest/Margaret	Fairfield IA	Ladwig, Travis	Lincoln IL
		Evans, Everett E/Janet	Riverside IA	Lake, Charles/Paula	Stockport IA
		Faeth, Lynn	Ft Madison IA	Lambert, Darrel	Mt Pleasant IA
		Fankhauser, Jeff/Danielle M	Brighton IA	Landeche, Lori M	LaPlace LA
		Farrier, Don (Sr)/Mary	Fairfield IA	Lanferman, Margaret A	Rome IA
		Featherston, Susan	Richland IA	Lanfranco, Richard D	New London IA
		Feikert, John K (Estate)	Fairfield IA	Lantz, Eunice D (Estate)	Fulton MO
		Fisher, Leonard	Brighton IA	Lay, Roy/Phyllis (Estate)	Donnellson IA
		Fleming, James L/Hunter, Eleanor	Fairfield IA	LeMaster, Jody G	Reeds Spring MO
		Foreman, Rodger W	Albia IA	Lee's Taxidermy	Burlington IA
		Fox, Thelma M	Riverside IA	Leffel, Patrick	Tulsa OK
		Fritz, Wanda	Brighton IA	Leffler, Tammy	McKenzie TN
		Garretson Equipment Co	Huntley IL	Lewis, Thomas D/Deborah	Topeka KS
		Garza, Alfredo/Jacinta	Burlington IA	Lieberg, Robert	Galesburg IL
		Gerleman, Diane	Memphis Mo	Livestock Placement	Salix IA
		Gerst, Anna L/Adler, Daren	Fairfield IA	Lopez, Jessie J Jr/Rebecca	Overland Park KS
		Gibbons, John	Jacksonville IL	Lowell Church	Mt Pleasant IA
		Gregory, Winn H	Hermiston OR	Marlin, William C	Mt Pleasant IA
		Greiner, Joseh B	Richland IA	Marsh, Byron/Nichole	Renton WA
		GTE Mobil Net	Schaumburg IL	Masters, Jerry/Lucille	Burlington IA
		GTE Telephone Operations	Irving TX	McAlister, Kambra K	Ft Madison IA
		Hain, Scott/Dianne	Cedar Rapids IA	McBride, Chester	Des Moines IA
		Haller, Cathy E	Letts IA	McConnell, L Wayne	North Augusta SC
		Hammer, Anita	Dayton IA	McConnell, Lawrence W	Burlington IA
		Harding, Pamela/Petrillose, Karen	Fairfield IA	McCurdy, David L/Judith	Rushville IL
		Harkers Distribtuion Inc	LeMars IA	McDonald, Sherry	Fairfield IA
		Hawkins, William/Diana	Hebron NE	McMahon, Louis/LaRayna	Mt Pleasant IA
		Hayes, Michael L	Galesburg IL	Meixner, Richard T	Fairfield IA
		Hayward, Frank E/Janet	American Fork UT	Miller, Stephen A	Burlington IA
		Helmick, Marlo J (Estate)	Ft Madison IA	Mills, Michael J/Jennifer	Reasonor IA
		Hendrickson, Elwin R/Dana	Mt Pleasant IA	Moeller, Ray	Cotopaxi CO
		Hickenbottom, Dorothy	Batavia IA	Moore, Howard W Jr/Deborah	Sylacauga AL
		Hicks, Dean E/Linda	Knoxville IA	Moore, Mrs. J Brown (Helen)	Mt Union IA
		Higgins, Jeffrey/Debra	Manlius IL	Morris, Allen D	Batavia IA
		Hill, Brian R/Lori D	Richland IA	Morrissey, Colleen R	Donnellson IA
				Murray, Raymond B/Diana	Palmyra MO
				Muschamp, Connie	Burlington IA
				Nelson, Delbert	Mt Pleasant IA

## SAVING ENERGY

### Reverse the spin and save

Ceiling fans can cut your electric bills year-round, but before you run out and buy one for every room, it's important to know how fans can help you save energy. If you install a ceiling fan and don't adjust your thermostat settings accordingly, you may be more comfortable – but you also could be increasing your monthly electric bills.

During winter, flip the small switch on the side of the ceiling fan housing to reverse the blade rotation to clockwise. Run the fan on low speed, so it creates a gentle upward breeze away from people in the room. This will push the warm air at the ceiling back down into the room, where it's needed. Then set your furnace a few degrees lower to save more. 🚀







Newpath Communications  
 Northwestern Bell  
 Parker, Dallas D/Anita  
 Perry, Brenda  
 Pilcher, Brian/Melinda  
 Piper, Sarah E  
 Polton, Edward M (Estate)  
 Poss, Ronald  
 Praver, Barry  
 Pumphrey, Chad (Estate)  
 Radtke, Denise  
 Ravey, Tom/Diane  
 Rice, Lois  
 Riley, Michael D/Constance L  
 Robson, Earnest/Barbara  
 Rockin M Ranch  
 Ross, Patty A (Estate)  
 Rowe, Troy E/Parker, Cherish  
 Rumfelt, Virginia  
 Russell, James L  
 Samir Corp  
 Sanders, William H  
 Sanderson, Melody L  
 Schillie, Lula  
 Schmidt, Chris/Linda  
 Settles, Dorothy L (Estate)  
 Shaner, Mark/Jan  
 Shirley, William C  
 Shull, Delores S  
 Simmons, Bill F/Michelle  
 Smith, Charles A  
 Sp Grove Mobile Homes  
 Stakland, Steven K  
 Stark, Laura K  
 Stensland, Kelvin  
 Stetson, Peter J/Jerre  
 Stewart, Roger  
 Stoner, Jeff S  
 Stortz, Willard R  
 Sue's Home Cookin' Café  
 Sweeney, Peder/Kelly  
 Tedrow, Darryl/Kelli  
 Templeton, Scott/Eleanor K  
 Terry, Martin/Twyla  
 Thompson, Dan R/Susan M  
 Topping, Chad A  
 Townes, Polly  
 Treimer, Todd/Amy  
 Underwood, Virginia F  
 Upton, Scott/Stalder, Sheryl  
 Upton, Steve  
 VanBlaricom, Larry  
 Vela, John R/Charlotte  
 VMG Snider LTD  
 Wagler, E Jean  
 Walrod, Bob E/Leona  
 Watkins, Wendell E  
 Watson, W B/Marilyn  
 Welcher, Cassandra L/  
 Claman, Ron  
 Wenger, Brenda J  
 Williams, Larry W/Maranna  
 Wilson, Gerald A JR/Martha  
 Woodside, Robert  
 Wright, Roger L  
 Wymer, Carol

Des Moines IA  
 Minneapolis MN  
 Wayland IA  
 Conroe TX  
 Owatonna MN  
 Washinton IA  
 Mt Pleasant IA  
 Ft Madison IA  
 Jupiter FL  
 Denmark IA  
 Batavia IA  
 Fairfield IA  
 Austin TX  
 Saint Peters MO  
 Fairfield IA  
 Bloomfield IA  
 Ft Madison IA  
 Winfield IA  
 West Point IA  
 Burlington IA  
 Mt Pleasant IA  
 Donnellson IA  
 Rome IA  
 Danville IA  
 Fairfield IA  
 Mt Pleasant IA  
 Fairfield IA  
 Columbus OH  
 Hedrick IA  
 Washington IA  
 LaGrange NC  
 Burlington IA  
 Saint George UT  
 Keosauqua IA  
 Burlington IA  
 Santa Barbara CA  
 Davenport IA  
 Beaverton OR  
 South English IA  
 Coeur D Alene ID  
 Asheville NC  
 Libertyville IA  
 Donnellson IA  
 Apple Valley CA  
 Batavia IA  
 Fairfield IA  
 Ottumwa IA  
 Huntsville AL  
 Keosauqua IA  
 Wayland IA  
 Danville IA  
 Ottumwa IA  
 Burlington IA  
 Reinbeck IA  
 Mt Pleasant IA  
 Savannah MO  
 Farmington IA  
 Columbia MO  
  
 LaHarpe IL  
 Marengo IA  
 Pershing IN  
 Ft Madison IA  
 Iowa City IA  
 Fairfield IA  
 Eldon IA

**SAFETY MATTERS**



All of us at Access Energy Cooperative would like your help in keeping our line workers safe while they work on your electric lines. If you see them working, move over to the other lane and slow down. We all thank you!

**SAFETY FIRST**

**Items on utility poles are illegal and pose a safety hazard**

Although it may seem like a good idea, putting items on utility poles creates serious safety hazards.



Staples, nails and tacks used to hang things – as well as the items themselves – pose dangers to Access Energy Cooperative line workers who must climb poles to restore power or perform routine maintenance.

Satellite dishes, deer stands or other objects (such as birdhouses, balloons, flags or a basketball net) can create dangerous obstacles. The nails, tacks and screws left behind can snag utility workers' boots or puncture safety clothing, making line workers vulnerable to slipping or even electrocution.

In addition to being hazardous, tampering with utility poles can be costly. Posting signs or attaching other objects to utility poles violates Access Energy Cooperative's electric tariff, section 19. Individuals are subject to disconnection and possible legal action.

Access Energy Cooperative encourages members to contact local zoning officers to inquire about where signage can be posted legally. ⚡

**FUNDING ASSISTANCE**

**Access Energy Cooperative sponsors energy efficiency research**

Each year, Access Energy Cooperative contributes a portion of its gross revenues to the Iowa Energy Center at Iowa State University and the Center for Global and Regional Environmental Research (CGRER) at the University of Iowa.

The Iowa Energy Center helps to promote, develop and advance energy efficiency programs and renewable energy research. In addition, their staff is available to answer questions on a variety of energy issues for the citizens of Iowa.

In 2017, Access Energy Cooperative was assessed one-tenth of one percent of its gross operating revenue for electric service of \$29,013,547. Access Energy Cooperative paid a total of \$29,014. Eighty-five percent of that will go to the Iowa State Energy Center and 15 percent will go to the University of Iowa for CGRER. All Iowa electric and gas utilities are required by the state legislature to help fund the two centers. ⚡