

Celebrating NATIONAL CO-OP MONTH



RECNEWS

October 2023

While they come in different forms and industries, cooperatives are all owned and led by the members they serve. And each cooperative follows a standard set of seven principles.

Open and Voluntary Membership

REC is proud to offer electric service to all member-owners in all or parts of 22 diverse counties. Whether you live in a bustling corridor along Route 1 or a quiet rural community, REC sees you as one and the same: a member-owner.

Democratic Member Control

In August, REC held its Annual Meeting, during which 18,000-plus member-owners elected three fellow members to the Board of Directors.

Members' Economic Participation

As a not-for-profit, all revenues REC receives through bill payments, beyond the costs for providing electric service, remain the property of member-owners and are assigned in the form of Capital Credits.

Autonomy and Independence

Your Cooperative is locally based, with deep knowledge of local needs and a strong focus on the local community. REC answers only to its member-owners and the laws that govern the Cooperative.

Education, Training and Information

REC visits schools, festivals, churches and neighborhood associations each year to share important information. Your Cooperative educates the membership on electric safety, energy efficiency, sustainability and more. The REC website, myrec.coop, is filled with tips to keep you safe and save you money.

Cooperation Among Cooperatives

Over the years, your Cooperative has dispatched lineworkers throughout the country to support other co-ops in their times of need, and they return the favor when major storms impact REC's member-owners. It's part of being a cooperative. We share information and resources to lift one another up.

Concern for the Community

REC participates in about 500 community events each year, sharing information on safety, job and our energy solutions designed to better serve you. REC also supports local organizations with critical donations.



"The people I help in my job are like extended family."

—Rhonda Lutz, Member Service Representative



"For our crews, it comes down to two words: Members first."

—Thomas Bailey, Line Foreman



"The people I help in my job are like extended family."

— Minda Payne, Billing Coordinator II

One Simple Act Can Mean So Much

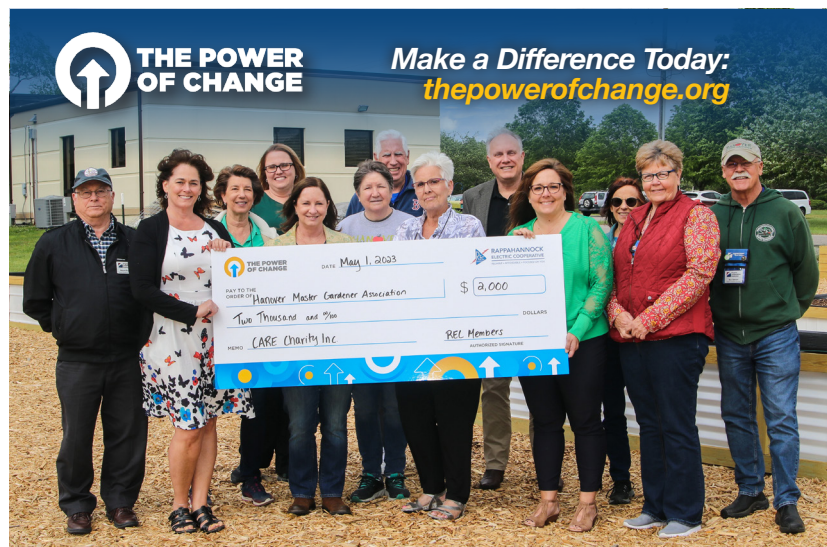


Each month, thousands of REC members give voluntarily to The Power of Change.

Gifts can be set at a monthly amount, a one-time donation or members can round up their bill to the next whole dollar.

Twice a year the donations from The Power of Change are made available to nonprofit, charitable organizations across our service territory. These funds are invested back into our communities so we have a better place to live, work and play.

Through the generosity of member-owners like you, REC has been able to donate more than \$1 million back into our communities to support food pantries, veterans groups, free clinics and other nonprofits that do so much for so many.



Fire Safety: Are You Prepared?

Your tired family calls it a night and heads off to bed. Meanwhile, a burner was accidentally left on in the kitchen and a few hours later the house is filled with smoke. Is your family prepared for a safe exit? Would the fire alarms all function properly? Would your children know what to do?

As we mark National Fire Safety Month in October, now is a great time to do a fire safety walk-through in your home and to review safety plans with your family.

Your first step: Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas.

Don't forget about basements and attics, too. Test the smoke alarms every month. If they're not working, change the batteries.

Placing smoke detectors in each room is critical, but safety experts caution that residents should also make sure they work properly—testing them monthly—and change the batteries at least twice a year.

Common fire hazards to watch for include frayed cords and older plugs and lint filters in your dryer.

If a fire does occur, get out, stay out, and call 9-1-1. Do not go back inside for anyone or anything.



Committed to Transparent Governance

REC, its Board of Directors and its Leadership Teams are committed to transparency and good governance. That's why, in 2019, your Cooperative created a section on the website to provide convenient access to REC policies, financial documents and other items related to its Board of Directors. REC believes that an informed membership contributes to the overall success of the Cooperative and that voluntarily sharing this information will benefit all member-owners. REC recognizes that an informed and engaged membership only makes for a stronger organization that is **Focused on You.**