



THE OUTLET

Monthly Publication of Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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ANNUAL SAFETY TRAINING

MLEC pole top rescue training was held on June 7th. Training is facilitated through the Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA). Each year, our lineworkers, right-of-way workers, and other staff that may assist in storm situations review what to do in case of an emergency that involves a fellow crew member. At this time, lineworkers re-certify their climbing skills and practice different emergency scenarios. If a lineworker was to have an emergency while climbing a pole, the training would ensure another lineworker would be able to rescue them, lower the individual safely to the ground, and begin first aid. Using different rigging combinations lets the lineworkers practice for a variety of situations. MLEC always puts safety first, and by performing safety trainings, the cooperative is assuring that our employees are properly trained to handle any situation.



EV CHARGING OPTIONS

The ability to charge an electric vehicle (EV) at home is one of the major benefits to making the switch from traditional cars fueled by gasoline.

Every EV comes with a Level 1 charging cord that plugs into a regular household outlet. If you drive less than 30 miles per day on average, Level 1 charging will meet your needs. If you exceed 30 miles per day, or prefer a faster charge, you will want to invest in a Level 2 charging station.

To alleviate the up-front cost associated with this equipment, Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative currently offers members a rebate of up to \$800 on EV chargers, when purchased through our online store. After buying your EV and deciding to invest in a Level 2 charger, you need to pick which model of charger is right for you. To help with this decision, we have vetted and chosen three Minnesota-made ZEF Energy chargers.

Follow these steps to purchase an EV charger:

Visit energywisemnstore.com

Create an account if you are new to the store. If not, simply sign in.

Click on "Shop," then Electric Vehicle Chargers

Peruse the three available options:



- **ZEFNET 40:** Charges your EV five times faster than the cordset that came with it. This is a hardwired car charger that works indoors and outdoors with all EVs.
- **ZEFNET 50:** Charges your EV up to seven times faster than the cordset that came with it. This charger is also hardwired and works indoors and outdoors with all models of EVs.
- **ZEFNET 60:** The fastest EV charging station is high-quality and packed with features. It's built and tested to automaker standards to ensure a reliable charge every time. Its NEMA 4 outdoor-rated enclosure means it can be installed anywhere.

Add your choice of EV charger to your cart. Please note the installation cost, which can vary from \$500 to \$1,000, is not included.

You will be required to provide additional information and a cooperative representative will contact you to answer any questions you may have, as well as ensure you meet the eligibility requirements for the rebate. The charger will arrive at your home within eight to thirteen weeks of purchase and is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Questions or concerns?
MLEC's Board of Directors represent you!

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Find minutes from MLEC Board meetings at:
<http://www.mlecmn.net>
under **My Co-op**

This newsletter is the voice of your tax and interest paying RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, an organization which was formed to supply you with low-cost, dependable electricity when other sources failed to do so.

Managing Editor: Kassie Peterson,
Communications Specialist

Did you know a ZEFNET 40 charger can replenish 200 miles of range in an eight-hour charging session?

Faster isn't always better!

Additionally, since most EVs are driven far less than 200 miles each day and will remain parked overnight, most EV owners do not need to take on the added expense of a faster charger. This approach can save you some money on material and installation - plus it will help your utility keep electric rates low.

ENERGY WISE  MN



A FIRST LOOK - BUILDING PROJECT

Dear Member:

Well, it is official, the new building project is moving forward. After years of things crawling at a snail's pace, it seems like we are running at lightning speed, and we can't seem to make decisions fast enough!

We have cleared the necessary trees, and they are now stacked on the property by species. They will be hauled to a member's property, where the wood will be milled and kiln-dried. We plan to use the wood from the property as trim and accent details in the new facility. Continue to read future Outlet Newsletters as that process gets rolling, and we can fill you in on more of the details. We also plan to have photos of this process in both the Outlet and on the MLEC website.

Once the trees have all been removed, we can move forward with our Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and start getting the site prepped and ready to accept materials of all kinds.

We have a place held with Wells Concrete, and they will be fabricating the pre-cast walls. We plan to have the panels on-site by the end of August with the goal of having the entire building enclosed by the end of November. Once enclosed, crews will get to work on the inside. See what I mean about lightning speed? If you have ever built a home, you know the decisions that come at you daily. At MLEC, it has been a true team effort; all employee groups have been working together to make daily decisions, finding ways to reduce costs to meet our budget, and planning the future of our electric cooperative.

Like all things cooperative, we are in it together. This is an exciting project, and I will keep you all updated every step of the way.



Sarah Cron
CEO

** This is a preliminary rendering and is subject to change.*



LET'S DISH

SEND US YOUR RECIPES!

We'll credit your account **\$10.00** if it's printed in THE OUTLET

MAIL TO:

Kassie Peterson
Mille Lacs Energy, P.O. Box 230 Aitkin,
MN 56431

OR E-MAIL:

kpeterson@mlecmn.com



RHUBARB COFFEE CAKE

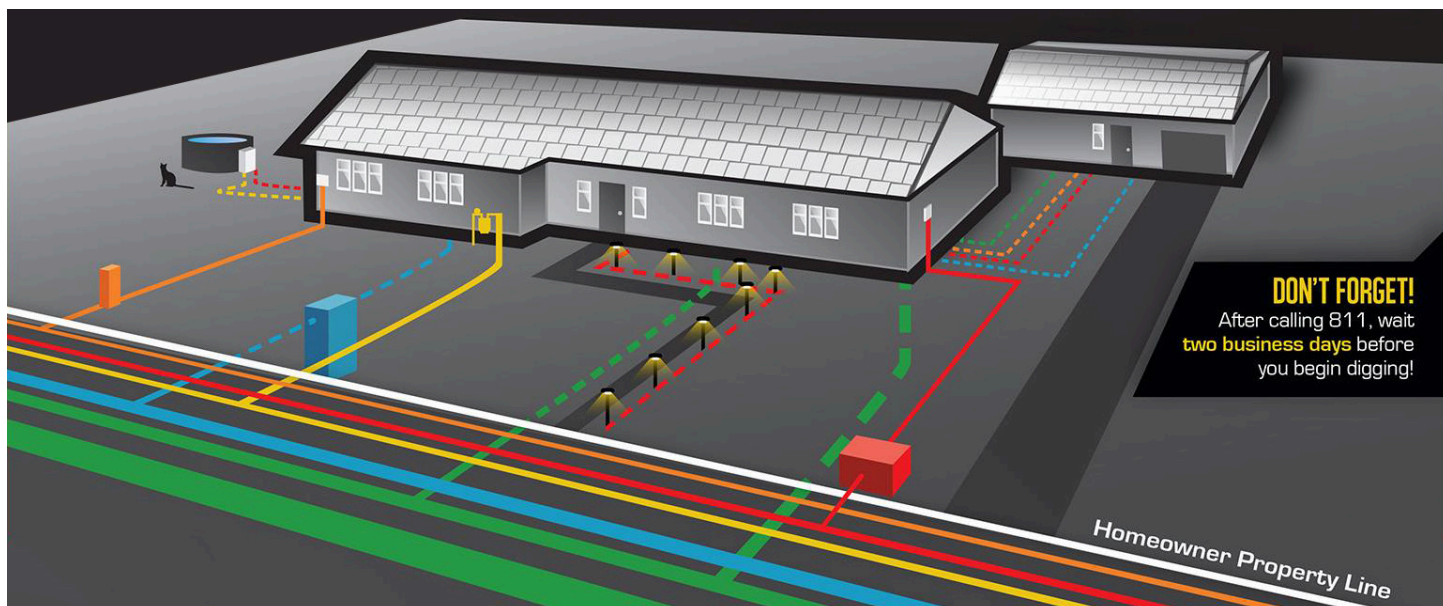
1/2 cup butter
1 egg
1 tsp vanilla
1/4 tsp salt
1 1/2 cups chopped rhubarb
1 1/2 cups brown sugar
1 cup milk

1 tsp baking soda
2 cups flour

Topping:

1/4 cup sugar
1 tsp cinnamon
1/2 cup chopped nuts

In large bowl, mix butter, egg, vanilla, salt, rhubarb, brown sugar, milk, baking soda, and flour. Pour into a greased and floured 9x13 pan. Next, mix sugar cinnamon and chopped nuts. Sprinkle topping mixture on top of cake batter. Bake at 325 degrees for 50-60 minutes. Enjoy!








LOCATE LINES FOR FREE

Water, natural gas, and residential electric lines are usually owned by the utility up to the meter. Some sewer districts own only the mains; others extend their ownership to laterals up to the property line. The customer typically owns everything beyond these points.

Customer-owned lines usually include any that serve outbuildings, hot tubs, security lighting, pools, and natural gas grills.

The free locating service available through Gopher State One Call applies ONLY to facilities owned by utilities. The diagram above shows a variety of utilities, some owned by the utility and some by the homeowner.

Those utilities marked by dotted lines are typically owned by the homeowner. Private locating services will mark these for a fee.

	WATER
	SEWER
	GAS & OIL
	ELECTRIC
	PHONE & CABLE



WHETHER TEMPS RISE OR FALL, YOUR ENERGY BILL WILL STAY COOL.

Take advantage of these hot promo rebates when you install a qualifying, energy-saving air source heat pump!

For a **LIMITED** time, if installed in August, you can double your rebates on ducted air source heat pumps when installed by a qualified contractor and put on our dual fuel program.

Call MLEC at 218-429-0432 or 888-433-4279!

Air Source Heat Pump	Regular Rebate	Promo Rebate
SEER 14.5	\$480	\$960
SEER 15	\$580	\$1,160
SEER 16+	\$630	\$1,260

Regular office hours are
Mon-Fri 8:00 to 4:30

927-2191 or
800-450-2191 (toll free)



48 hours before you dig
Dial 811 - Gopher State
One Call or log on to:
www.gopherstateonecall.org

Then contact a licensed electrician
to locate your secondary wires.

MN Electrical Inspectors
Aitkin County &
South East Crow Wing County
Jeff Larson 320-227-3009

Northern Crow Wing County
Nathan Readle 218-537-8419

Mille Lacs County
Benjamin Husom 320-277-6277

Off-peak and dual fuel system
consumers should call an
electrician or heating contractor for
service or repairs.

Find load control schedule at
www.mlecmm.net under Quick Links.

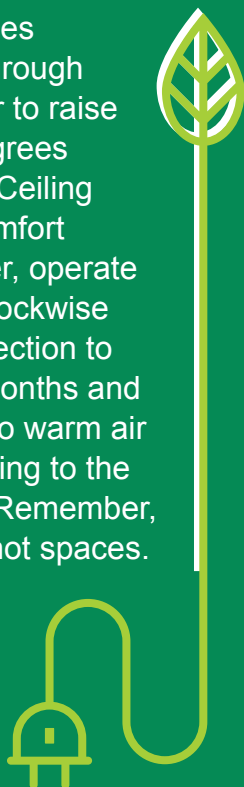


Visit our website -
www.mlecmm.net
E-mail us - mlec@mlecmm.net

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Did you know ceiling fans can make a room feel 4 degrees cooler? To save energy through ceiling fan use, remember to raise your thermostat a few degrees while fans are turned on. Ceiling fans can help improve comfort year-round. In the summer, operate ceiling fans in a counterclockwise direction. Reverse the direction to clockwise during winter months and set fans on a low speed so warm air can circulate from the ceiling to the lower levels of the room. Remember, ceiling fans cool people, not spaces. Be sure to turn them off when you leave the room.

Source: Dept. of Energy



FOOD TRUCK DAYZ AT THE CO-OP

AUGUST SCHEDULE

Aug. 10 - U.S. Wok

Aug. 17 - Barajas Mexican Grill

Aug. 24 - Crabby Dale's BBQ

Aug. 31 - Pit Happens BBQ

* Dates are subject to change. Follow the Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative Facebook page for updates/ cancellations*



PHOTO CALENDAR

See your photo in MLEC's 2024 Calendar! We're asking members to submit photos by October 27, 2023. Winning photos will receive a \$10 credit on their electric bill. Voting will take place after the deadline on the MLEC Facebook page. The 12 photos with the most likes will be featured in the calendar.

Photos must be emailed to:
photos@mlccmn.com
by 11:59 p.m. on October 27, 2023.

Winning photographers automatically give MLEC permission to use the photos in the calendar, in other publications, member presentations or electronically online.



FAST SPEEDS to fit your needs!

Can your Internet keep up with what's new? The more devices you have, the more speed you need. MLEC Fiber is the fastest and most reliable Internet available and offers different plans to fit your budget and lifestyle.

(218) 429-0433 • www.mlecmm.net/fiber

MLEC fiber
 Powered by Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative



GIFT CARD TRIVIA!

Correctly answer the question below for your chance to win a gift card from a local business within our service area. The answer can be found within this issue of The Outlet. You must be an MLEC member to participate. Be sure to include your name and service address! Entries must be received by **August 31st**.

MAIL TO:
 Kassie Peterson
 Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative
 P.O. Box 230
 Aitkin, MN 56431

OR E-MAIL:
kpeterson@mlccmn.com

What color flags are used to mark electric lines?

Name:

Address:

Congrats to Leslie Goble, the June gift card trivia winner!



MILLE LACS ENERGY COOPERATIVE

36559 US Highway 169, Aitkin, MN 56431 • (218) 927-2191 / (800) 450-2191 • www.mlecmm.net

Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.