

The Connection

POWERING LIVES AND
EMPOWERING THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE.



TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



Some scammers will pose as utility workers or contractors affiliated with your electric utility by knocking on your door and claiming to be employed or hired by the utility company. They may claim they were hired to reset, repair, replace or inspect your electric meter or other utility-related device. If a utility employee or authorized contractor needs access to your home, we will schedule an appointment in advance, and proper identification will be provided for your review.

*Source: Utilities United
Against Scams*

**CALL CONSUMERS ENERGY AT
800-696-6552
IF EVER IN DOUBT.**




**Submit your
answers to the
Father's Day
word game on
page 8-E.**

**WIN ONE OF TWO MONTHLY \$5 BILL CREDITS
IN 3 EASY STEPS!**

- 1** Answer the question or challenge posed each month.
- 2** Send answers to Consumers Energy with the following info:
Name, Service Address, Account #, Phone #, and email address.
- 3** Submit via website, email, or mail:

Scan this QR code, and submit your entry from the co-op's website.

 kglenney@consumersenergy.coop
Subject line: CONTEST

 Consumers Energy
Attn: CONTEST
2074 242nd Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158



WINNERS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL:
SONYA COLVIN, CAMBRIDGE
JOE & JODY MELCHER, NEVADA

D A T E S to remember



JUNE

- 2 Read meters
- 3 Bills due
- 3 Automatic Payments deducted
- 10 Email/Mail bills
- 15 Father's Day
- 25 Automatic Payments deducted

JULY

- 1 Read meters
- 3 Bills due
- 3 Automatic Payments deducted
- 4 Office Closed - July 4 Holiday

How Extreme Summer Temps Impact Reliability:

When outdoor temperatures soar, our electricity use increases. That's because our air conditioners are running longer and more often to counteract sweltering outdoor temperatures. Factor in that we all tend to use electricity at the same times—in the morning and early evenings—and that equals a lot of strain on our electric grid.

At Consumers Energy, we work closely with Central Iowa Power Cooperative, or CIPCO, our local generation and transmission (G&T) cooperative in resource and infrastructure planning to ensure you have the power you need whenever you flip a switch, but the electric grid is much larger than your local co-op and G&T.

In summer months, when even more electricity is being used simultaneously across the country, it is possible for electricity demand to exceed supply, especially if a prolonged heat wave occurs. If this happens, which is rare, the grid operator for our region of the country may call on electricity users to actively reduce their energy use or initiate rolling power outages to relieve pressure on the grid. Consumers Energy will always keep you informed about situations like this.

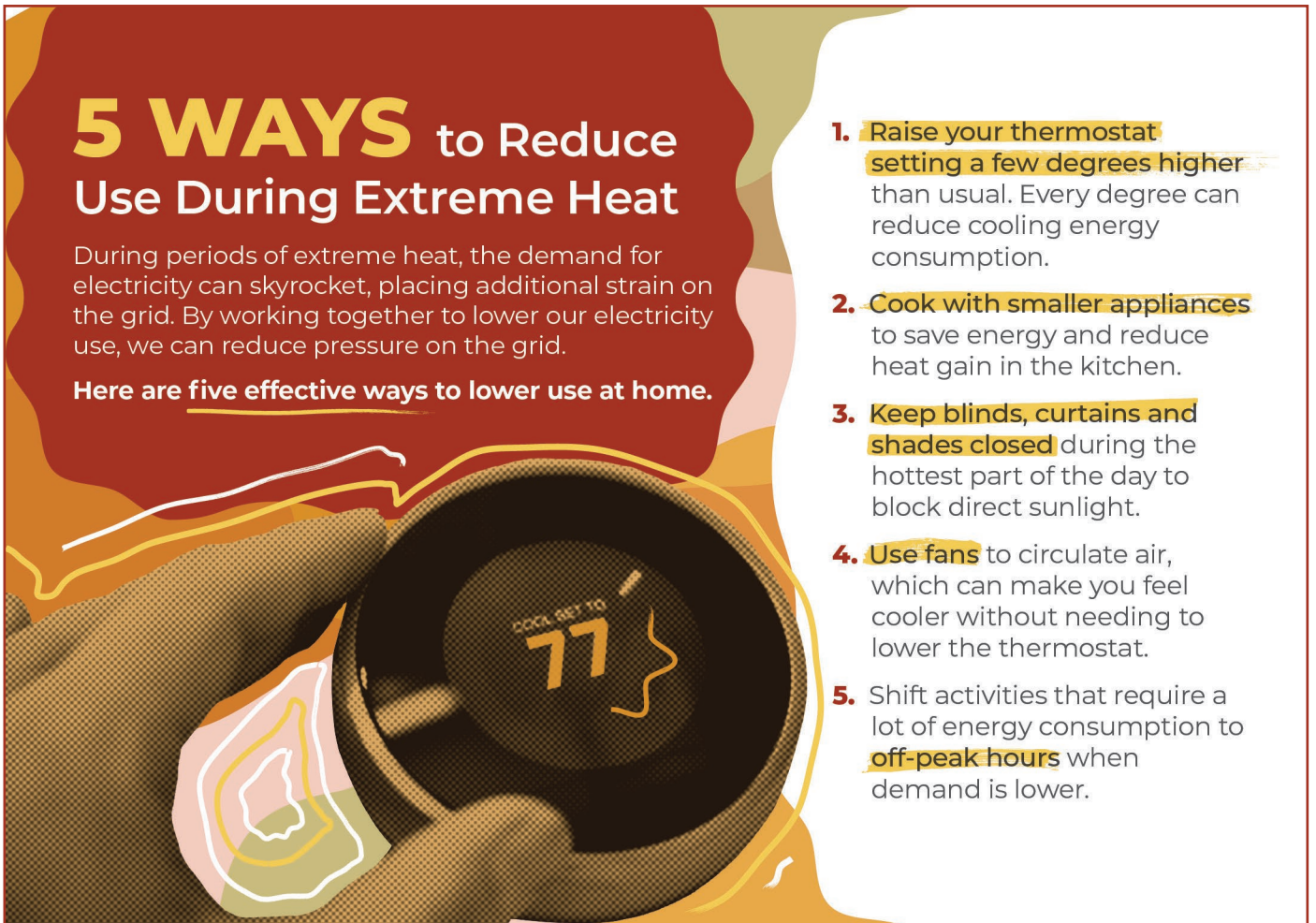
We work proactively with our G&T to create a resilient portion of the grid and ensure electric reliability in extreme weather, including regular system maintenance, grid modernization efforts, and disaster response planning; but it takes everyone to keep the grid reliable.

5 WAYS to Reduce Use During Extreme Heat

During periods of extreme heat, the demand for electricity can skyrocket, placing additional strain on the grid. By working together to lower our electricity use, we can reduce pressure on the grid.

Here are five effective ways to lower use at home.

1. Raise your thermostat setting a few degrees higher than usual. Every degree can reduce cooling energy consumption.
2. Cook with smaller appliances to save energy and reduce heat gain in the kitchen.
3. Keep blinds, curtains and shades closed during the hottest part of the day to block direct sunlight.
4. Use fans to circulate air, which can make you feel cooler without needing to lower the thermostat.
5. Shift activities that require a lot of energy consumption to off-peak hours when demand is lower.



To help keep the air conditioner running for you, your family, and your neighbors, here are a few things you can do to relieve pressure on the grid during times of extreme summer heat:

- Select the highest comfortable thermostat setting and turn it up several degrees whenever possible. Your cooling system must run longer to make up the difference between the thermostat temp and the outdoor temp.
- Seal air leaks around windows and exterior doors with caulk and weatherstripping. Air leaks and drafts force your cooling system to work harder than necessary.
- Run major appliances such as dishwashers, ovens, and dryers during off-peak hours when the demand for electricity is lower. Start the dishwasher before you go to bed.
- Use ceiling fans to make yourself feel a few degrees cooler. Remember, ceiling fans cool people (not rooms), so turn them off in unoccupied rooms. During summer months, set ceiling fan blades to rotate counterclockwise, which pushes cool air down for a windchill effect.
- Close blinds, curtains, and shades during the hottest part of the day to block unwanted heat gain from sunlight. Consider blackout curtains with thermal backing or reflective lining to block heat and light.
- Use smaller appliances, such as slow cookers, air fryers, and toaster ovens to cook meals. Studies have shown that air fryers use about half the amount of electricity than a full-sized oven. Air fryers are smaller and use focused heat, which results in faster cooking times, less heat output, and lower energy use.

As we face the challenges posed by soaring summer temperatures, understanding the impact on energy demand is crucial for maintaining a reliable power supply. By adopting energy conservation practices during periods of extreme heat, not only can you save money on your electric bills, but you can also contribute to the resilience of the grid, keeping our local community cool and connected.



Bridget Itzen
CEO/General Manager

Be Weather Aware This Summer

**Severe summer storms can strike with little warning.
Stay safe by being prepared before the weather turns.**

HAVE AN OUTAGE?

CALL 800-696-6552 OR 641-752-1593.

PHONES ARE ANSWERED 24 HOURS A DAY.



**LISTEN TO WEATHER REPORTS
& RECOMMENDATIONS.**

SCAN HERE
OR GO TO:

WWW.CONSUMERSENERGY.COOP/OUTAGE-SAFETY

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR
STORM PREPAREDNESS
INFORMATION.**





Consumers Energy is proud to sponsor a student annually for the Iowa Youth Tour.

Iowa's not-for-profit electric cooperatives have been sending high school students to Washington, D.C., in June since 1958!

On the tour, students learn about electric cooperatives, American history, and U.S. government and walk away with a greater understanding of their role as an American citizen. They participate in National Youth Day, visit with their elected legislators, and explore the sights around the nation's capital.

CONGRATS,
JAKE!

THIS YEAR'S WINNER IS...

Jake Buell



Jake is the son of Ann Marie & Fred Buell of Ankeny. He is a sophomore at Grandview Christian School where he is co-captain of the tennis team, a member of the football team, participates on the speech team, captain of the Bible quizzing team, a member of the National Honor Society, and a member of the praise team at his church where he plays drums. In his free time, Jake has a passion for cars, staying active through athletics, playing drums, fishing with family, and driving which gives him a sense of freedom and adventure.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON YOUTH TOUR, CONTACT TAMI KERWOOD AT 800-696-6552 OR TKERWOOD@CONSUMERSENERGY.COOP.

Annual Audit of Co-op Financials Complete


In March, Eide Bailly LLP completed the Annual Audit of the balance sheet of Consumers Energy Cooperative and Subsidiary as of December 31, 2024, and 2023, and the related statements of operations, member patronage capital credits, and other equities and cash flows for the years then ended. The audits were conducted according to the generally accepted auditing standards.

An audit facilitates improved processes and controls, addresses regulatory or other compliance issues, and ensures processes are efficient as well as providing reasonable assurance the financial statements are presented fairly and are free of material misstatement. Eide Bailly LLP's Brady Cross, CPA, Audit Manager, presented a clean opinion to the Board of Directors at their April board meeting, stating that the financial statements are in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. The financial statements for Consumers Energy will be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting on Thursday evening, August 21, 2025.


• CONGRATS, STEVE! •


STEVE FRYE

IS OFFICIALLY RETIRED!



After 11 years of dedicated service to the cooperative membership as the Warehouse & Purchasing Coordinator, Steve Frye has officially retired.

Employees celebrated with Steve on his last day at Consumers Energy.

**Steve will be missed!
Enjoy your retirement, Steve!**

Develop Slate of Candidates for Election of Directors & Post Nominations

The committee met on April 29 to develop a slate of candidates to run for Consumers Energy's Board of Directors. The election of three directors will be held at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, August 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

The committee shall prepare and post at the principal office of the Cooperative at least forty-five (45) days before the meeting a list of nominations for directors.

Each co-op member will receive information on the director candidates in the Annual Meeting Notice and Ballot Mailing to be mailed in early August.

Director candidate deadlines are fast approaching. Get in contact with a member of the Nominating Committee by contacting the cooperative:

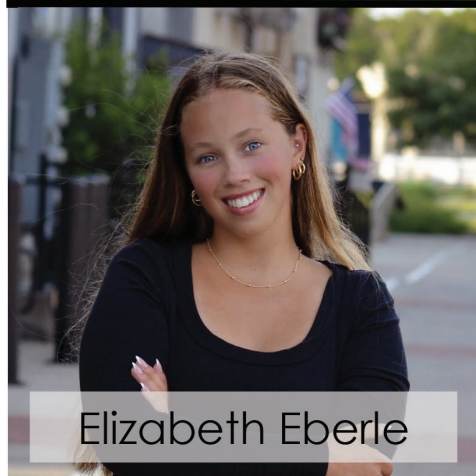
Lee Tesdell, Merrell Kilborn, Mona Kilborn, Autumn Ogden, Chairperson Loyd Nelson, Carman Rosburg, Vice Chairperson Becky McKibben, & Russ Yarrow

Consumers Energy

is proud to announce the
2025 Academic & Lineworker
Scholarship Recipients



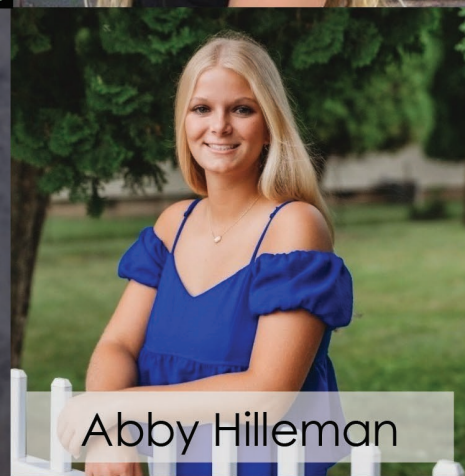
Payton Askelsen



Elizabeth Eberle



Lillian Fischer



Abby Hilleman



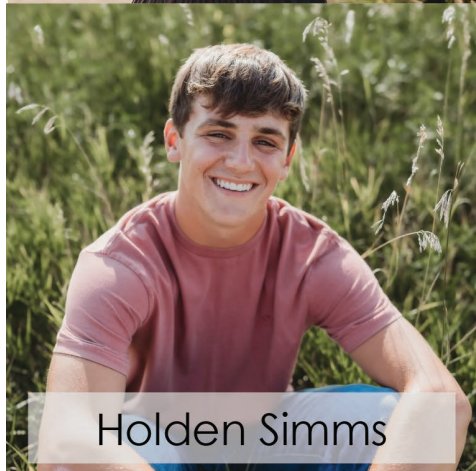
Elisa Kendall



Natalie Nichols



Logan Rainsbarger



Holden Simms



Ruth Turczynski



Wade Weuve

ROBERT YEAGER

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



JOB: JOURNEYMAN LINEMAN



DREAM VACATION: WHALE WATCHING IN THE NORTHWEST



FAVE BAND: TEXAS HIPPIE COALITION



FAVE SONGS: SIMPLE MAN; BORN FREE



FAVE MOVIE: GRUMPY OLD MEN



FAVE RESTAURANT: THE FLYING ELBOW



OTHER FAVES: HANGING WITH RUSS



FUN FACTS: COURSE RACING THROUGH SPORTS CAR CLUB OF AMERICA (SCCA)

Where are they?



We need help locating these former co-op members.

Consumers Energy is holding unclaimed money due to those persons listed. This property is the result of checks from Patronage Capital Credit payouts that have been returned to the cooperative due to outdated mailing information. The owner may claim this money by contacting the Member Services Department at 800-696-6552 or info@consumersenergy.coop.

CARTER ANDERSON; HUXLEY, IA
JORDAN ANDRUS; ANKENY, IA
DARRELL BAKER; MESA, AZ
MATT BALTES; AMES, IA
NATHAN BANGERT; ANKENY, IA
BENNETT BAY INVESTMENTS,
LLC; WAUKEE, OA
HAILEY BIRDSALL; OGDEN, IA
SEAN BOYLAN; BOONE, IA
EMILY BROCK; ANKENY, IA
SUNIL BULUSU; NEW HILL, NC
CATHY CASTEEL; AMES, IA
TIENZHU CHEN; NEVADA, IA
CLASSIC BUILDERS; ANKENY, IA
NICK COBURN; NEVADA, IA
DAKOTA COLE; SLATER, IA
KAYLA COOK; FOREST CITY, IA
TYLER DAVIDSON; ANKENY, IA
DSM PROPERTY MANAGEMENT;
URBANDALE, IA
CALVIN ENFIELD; COLLINS, IA

LOTTISIA FANNON; BOONE, IA
MARCUS FLEMING; STATE CENTER, IA
DOMINIC FOSTER; ANKENY, IA
AMANDA FUDGE; ANKENY, IA
ROBERT GIBSON; NEVADA, IA
AMANDA GILES; ANKENY, IA
JAMES GUSTAFSON; NEVADA, IA
JESSICA HANCE; JOHNSTON, IA
ABBEY HANSON; ANKENY, IA
TERESA HON; ANKENY, IA
RICKEY HUTSON; ANKENY, IA
ALY JAMES; BONDURANT, IA
KELSI JOHNSTON; IOWA CITY, IA
ALVIN KEMMERER; NEVADA, IA
ANTOINETTE KENNEDY; KELLEY, IA
LARRY KLINE; MARSHALLTOWN, IA
KRAIG JOHNSON ENTERPRISES LLC
KRUPP RENTAL PROPERTIES; NEVADA, IA
JEFFREY LARSON; CLIVE, IA
WILMA J LONGNECKER; CAMBRIDGE, IA
CRYSTAL MCDOWELL; AMES, IA

KIM MIKKELSEN; HUXLEY, IA
BAILEY MONTGOMERY; ANKENY, IA
BRADY NELSON; BOONE, IA
OAK GROVE PORK LTD; LEIGHTON, IA
ANTHONY OAKLEY; LINCOLN, NE
LAURYN OWENS; BONDURANT, IA
BERNARDO PANTOJA; ANKENY, IA
MICHAEL PATTERSON; MARSHALLTOWN, IA
NICHOLAS PERRY; CROCKER, MO
ADAM PETROWITZ; BELLEVUE, IA
MICHAEL PIERCE; ANKENY, IA
ROSA PINEDO; PLEASANT HILL, IA
JEFFREY REEVES; ELKHART, IA
BRANDI RINGHOLZ; ANKENY, IA
COHLE ROSTOMILY; DE SOTO, IA
GAGE SAWYER; BOONE, IA
DIANE SHOWERS; SPRING HILL, KS
ANTHONY SIMONS; DES MOINES, IA
SOUTHRIDGE APTS LLC; AMES, IA
MALEAH SPIKER; ANKENY, IA

SPRUCE HOSPITALITY LLC;
MARSHALLTOWN, IA
GEORGE STEVENS; THORNTON, CO
SUPERIOR RENTALS; FORT
SMITH, AR
CRISSY SWISHER; NEVADA, IA
TDH LLC; KELLEY, IA
CUTLER THAYER; NEVADA, IA
THREE TMEN LLC; ANKENY, IA
UNIQUE HOMES; ALTOONA, IA
MARTHA VENEGAS;
MARSHALLTOWN, IA
ADDYSON VERVILLE; NEVADA, IA
RACHEL VOLNER; ANKENY, IA
WHITE OAK ENTERTAINMENT
GROUP LLC; POLK CITY, IA
JOE WIELE; GILMAN, IA

CONSUMERS ENERGY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District 1 - Marshall, Jasper, & Tama Counties:

Denny Beckman

President

dbeckman@consumersenergy.coop

Bill Hobson

Director

whobson@consumersenergy.coop

Pat VonAhnen

Secretary-Treasurer

pvonahnen@consumersenergy.coop

District 2 - Story County:

Arden Greiner

Director

agreiner@consumersenergy.coop

Bob Meimann

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

rmeimann@consumersenergy.coop

Steve Quick

Director

squick@consumersenergy.coop

District 3 - Polk County:

Craig Griffieon

Vice President

cgriffieon@consumersenergy.coop

Tony Lem

Director

alem@consumersenergy.coop

Jennifer Sease

Director

jsease@consumersenergy.coop

Energy Efficiency Cost per kWh:
\$0.000219

To report an outage, call 800-696-6552.

Phones are answered
24 hours a day/
7 days a week.



For the most accurate outage updates, check for messages on SmartHub or www.consumersenergy.coop, the statewide outage map, or call Consumers Energy.

WAYS TO PAY YOUR CONSUMERS ENERGY BILL



Online or the app

www.consumersenergy.coop

Automatic recurring
monthly payments



In person
headquarters
location

By dropbox



Allow 2-3 business
days for payments to
reach headquarters.

By phone 24/7
855-939-3832



By mail



2074 242nd Street | Marshalltown, IA 50158



641-752-1593 | 800-696-6552



855-939-3832



641-752-5738



www.consumersenergy.coop



info@consumersenergy.coop

OFFICE HOURS

7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

MONDAY - FRIDAY

EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS



REBATES

- Consumers Energy offers members rebates for new electric equipment purchases and energy-efficiency upgrades.



OPERATION ROUND-UP

- Help your neighbors with heating bills.
- Donate spare change monthly by rounding up your electric bill.

For information on ways to pay or programs and services offered, contact the Member Services Department.