

The Connection

POWERING LIVES AND
EMPOWERING THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE.

CONSUMERS
ENERGY
CO-OP

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



Always be cautious of unsolicited calls (or in-person visits) to your home from companies claiming to conduct energy audits. These are typically telemarketing firms that claim to be a third-party company or pose as a representative from your electric utility to gain access to homes and sell services with the promise of government rebates. Many electric utilities provide energy audit services, but they are typically scheduled at the customer's request.

Source: Better Business Bureau

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



D A T E S to remember

2025

JULY

- 1 Read meters
- 3 Bills due
- 3 Automatic Payments deducted
- 4 Office Closed - July 4 Holiday
- 10 Email/Mail bills
- 25 Automatic Payments deducted

AUGUST

- 1 Read meters
- 3 Bills due
- 4 Automatic Payments deducted
- 21 Annual Meeting



Send in your
answers to the
Emoji Pictionary
game on Page
8-B.



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 MAY:
MARY ANNE BAER, MARSHALLTOWN
DEBBIE SIEVERS, ALLEMAN



Who Owns What?:

Understanding Electric Equipment Responsibilities

As July rolls in with longer days and rising temperatures, it also brings the increased potential for severe weather. Summer storms can arrive quickly and hit hard, sometimes causing significant damage to essential electric equipment throughout our community.

Consumers Energy is always prepared to respond swiftly to outages and restore power safely, but it is also important for homeowners to understand which parts of the electric system are their responsibility and which are maintained by us at the co-op. Understanding these key differences can help speed up repairs and ensure everyone stays safe when the weather turns rough.

Consumers Energy is responsible for maintaining and repairing the equipment and lines that run to your home, including utility poles, distribution power lines, electric meters, and pad-mounted transformers.

Consumers Energy members are responsible for the equipment located between the electric meter and your home or business that lead into the structure and the service panel. Members are also responsible for the weatherhead and service mast located outside the home.

If any equipment that you (the homeowner) are responsible for is damaged, please call a licensed electrician to conduct the repairs. A professional has the experience and know-how to assess and manage these types of repairs.

When severe weather damages electrical equipment, it's important to note that any necessary repairs to the homeowner's equipment must be conducted before Consumers Energy crews can restore power to your home or business. By understanding the equipment you are responsible for, the repair and restoration process will be smoother and faster.

Our community takes great pride in the beautiful trees and landscaping that contribute to the natural beauty where we live, however, regular trimming is essential to ensure reliable electric service and minimize damage from severe weather. Consumers Energy regularly trims trees throughout our service territory to improve service reliability. If you spot a tree limb that is obstructing a distribution power line outside your home, please call Consumers Energy so we can trim those limbs and maintain those lines.

By working together to understand the essential equipment that powers daily life, we can all be better prepared to start the repair and restoration process if severe weather impacts our community.

If you have any questions about your electrical equipment, we're here to help. Please contact Consumers Energy at 800-696-6552 or info@consumersenergy.coop.

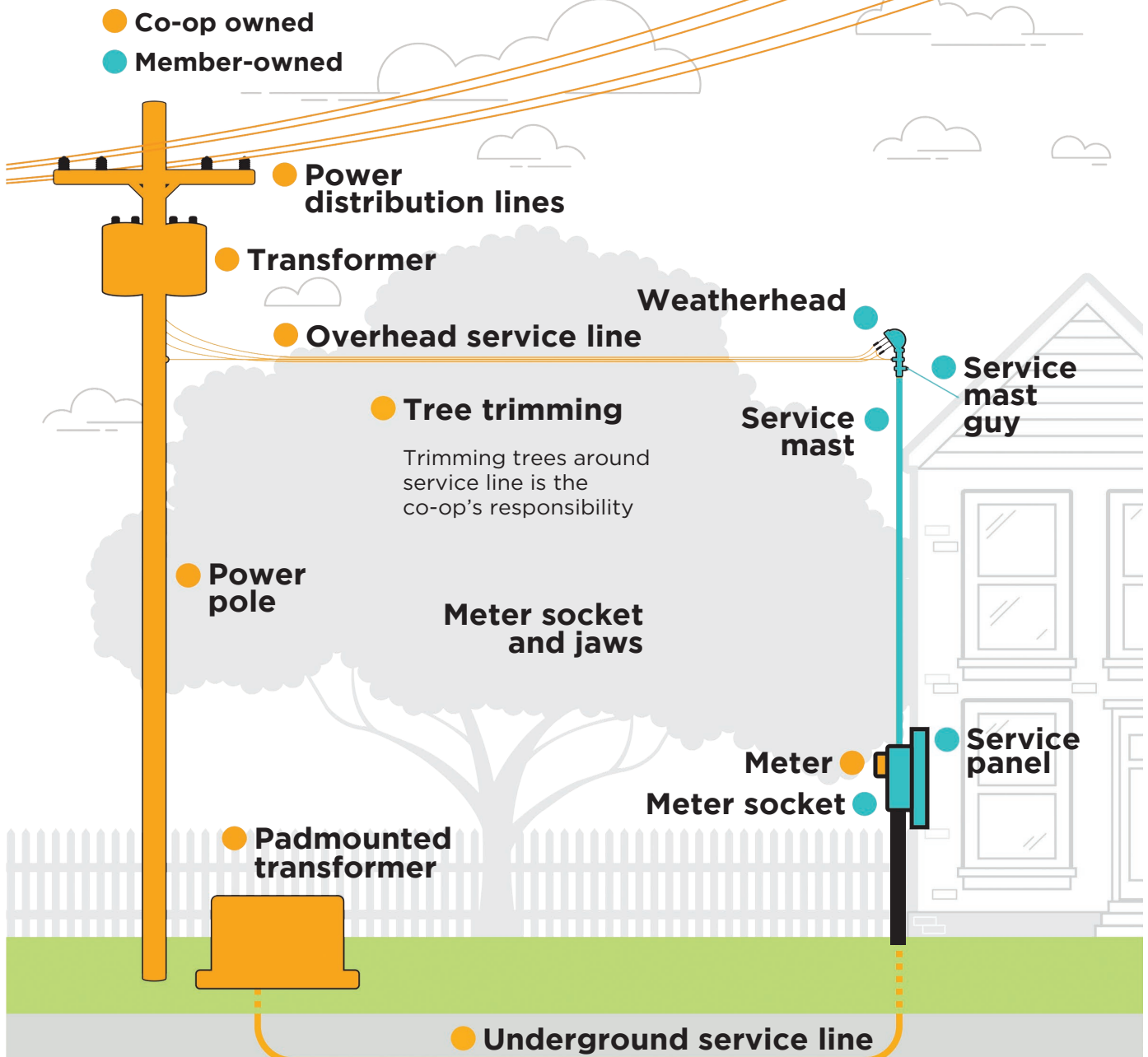
Bridget Itzen
CEO/General Manager



Who Owns What?

Electric Co-op Owned Equipment vs Member-Owned Equipment

This graphic depicts equipment owned by the co-op (in **gold**) and the member (in **blue**). If a storm damages any equipment owned by the co-op, we are responsible for repairs. If a storm damages any member-owned equipment, the member is responsible for repairs. Members should hire a licensed electrician when making any repairs to member-owned equipment.

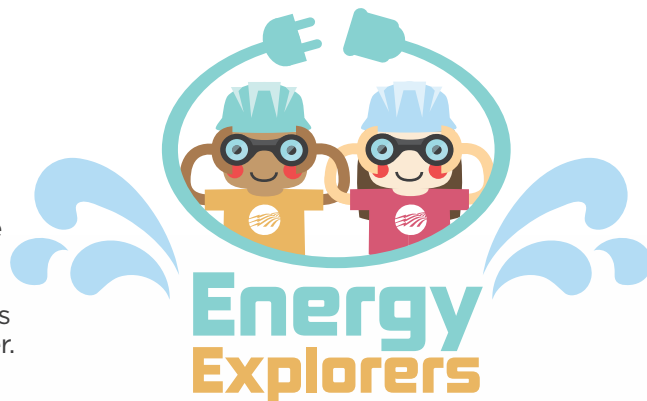


*Note: This graphic depicts both **overhead and underground** service. Members will have one or the other, not both. Please be aware of which type of service you receive at your home.*

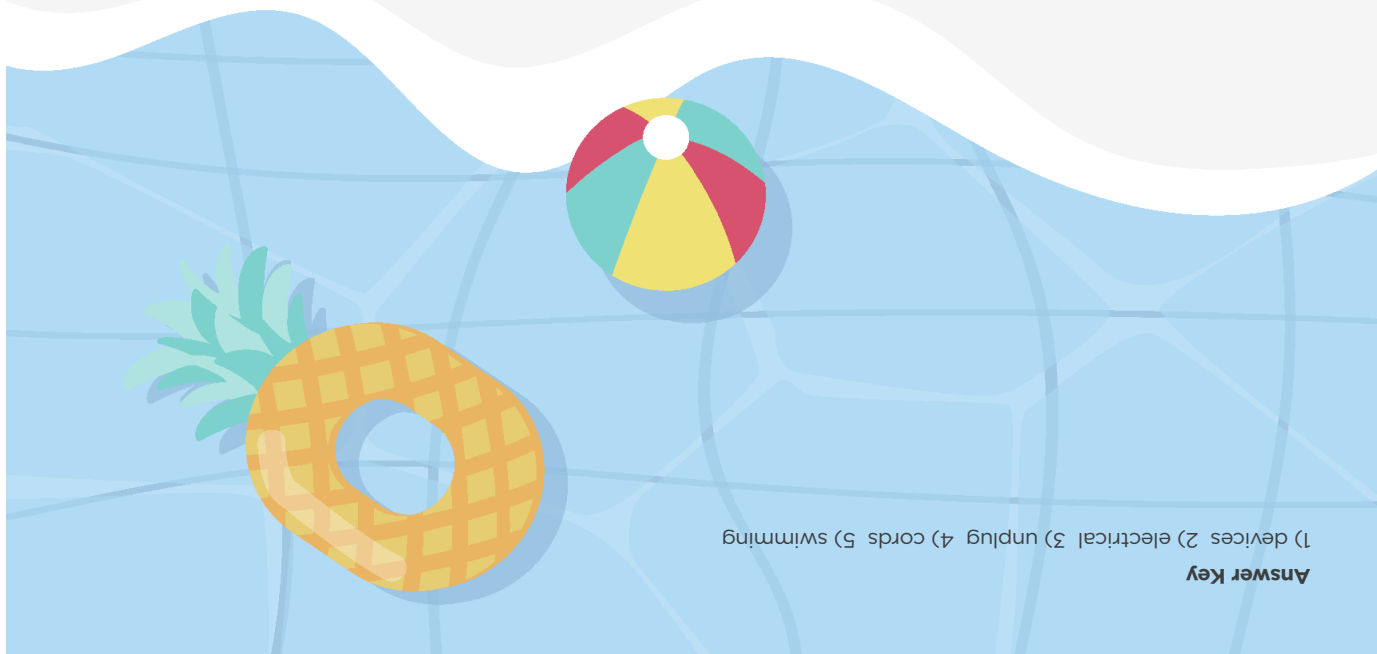
WATER SAFETY WORD SCRAMBLE

Outdoor water activities and electricity never mix because water is a powerful conductor of electricity. When electrical devices or cords come into contact with water—like at a pool, lake or beach—it can cause serious electric shocks. Keep all electrical items far away from water and always follow safety rules when you’re outside near water.

Read the sentences below, then unscramble the bolded letters to complete the safety tips.



1. Never touch electrical **csevied**, switches or plugs when your hands are wet.
2. Always place **lacertceil** items like radios, speakers or lights at least 10 feet away from the water’s edge.
3. After using outdoor electronics, **ngulup** them and store them away from water to prevent accidents.
4. Keep extension **dsroc** far away from water sources to prevent tripping hazards.
5. Always pay attention to “no **wmsining**” signs, whether at the pool, beach or lake.



Answer Key
1) devices 2) electrical 3) unplug 4) cords 5) swimming

LANE JOHNSON

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



-  **JOB: APPRENTICE LINEMAN**
-  **DREAM VACATION: GREECE OR SWITZERLAND**
-  **FAVE MOVIE: GOOD WILL HUNTING**
-  **FAVE BANDS/PERFORMERS: HARDY**
-  **FAVE SONG: RED BY HARDY, FEATURING MORGAN WALLEN**
-  **FAVE BOOK: CATCHER IN THE RYE**
-  **FAVE FOODS: SALISBURY STEAK & GARLIC MASHED POTATOES**
-  **FUN FACT- LANE BOWLED ON A TEAM FOR 7 YEARS!** 

Board of Directors Approves Allocation:

For the year 2024, Consumers Energy reported margins totaling \$2,007,042. At the May 2025 board meeting, the Board of Directors voted to allocate \$906,338 of those margins to the deferred patronage capital credits to be added to the revolving fund and credited on the books of the cooperative to each patron in proportion to the total electric revenues of the cooperative for the year 2024. This allocation is to be retired (paid) at a date in the future as determined by the board. The remaining \$1,100,704 of margins was allocated to the contingency reserve and statutory surplus accounts. These margins are allocated in this manner in order to keep these reserves funded as required by state law and cooperative policy. For more information on the allocation process, contact the Member Services Department at 800-696-6552 or info@consumersenergy.coop.



Consumers Energy's Board of Directors front row from L to R: Bill Hobson, Pat VonAhnen, Tony Lem, Denny Beckman; back row: Arden Greiner, Jennifer Sease, Steve Quick, Craig Griffieon, Bob Meimann

THURSDAY



HELD AT CONSUMERS ENERGY'S HEADQUARTERS:
2074 242ND STREET, MARSHALLTOWN

ALL MEMBER ACCOUNTS PRESENT WILL RECEIVE:



\$20 bill credit



Attendance gift

COME TO YOUR
COOPERATIVE'S ANNUAL
MEETING TO ELECT
DIRECTORS, HEAR HOW THE
CO-OP IS DOING, EAT SOME
YUMMY FOOD, & ENJOY
SOME ENTERTAINMENT!

STAY UNTIL THE END FOR THE
PRIZE DRAWING FOR A
CHANCE TO WIN ONE OF THE
FABULOUS PRIZES HERE! →



Cash



Electric pressure washer

FUN! &
EDUCATION

VOTE



Quiet Generator

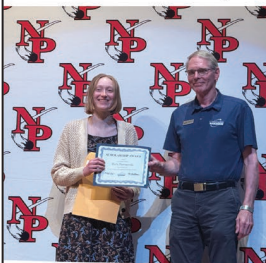
FOOD & DRINKS

Brands of prizes may vary depending on availability.
Must be present to win.



Every year, Consumers Energy Directors and staff present scholarships to area winners of these awards. Below are photos from local school events.

Scholarship Award Presentations



Pictured above, starting with the top left:
North Polk High School - Ruth Turczynski & Director Steve Quick
West Marshall High School: Holden Simms, Wade Weuve, Lillian Fischer, Abby Hilleman, Elisa Kendall, Natalie Nichols, & Director Pat VonAhnen
Marshalltown High School: Employee Tami Kerwood & Elizabeth Eberle
Ballard High School: Employee Gail Hull, Payton Askelsen, & Director Steve Quick

Stop by and see us at the Iowa State Fair!

Visit our booth in the 4-H Exhibits Building on the southwest end of the fairgrounds. We'll have plastic hard hats and suckers for kids (while supplies last).

Try on some real lineworker gear and pose for fun photos in our safety selfie station!



Touchstone Energy®
Cooperatives
of Iowa

IowaStateFair

OFFICIAL
SPONSOR

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CO-OP'S 2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

Payton Askelsen is the daughter of Chad and Suzanne Askelsen of Cambridge. Payton attends Ballard Community High School where she is a member of the National Honor Society, FCA, Student Council, International Student Club, the incoming freshman transition team, Prom Committee, and the Stomp Out Sigma Group. She volunteers at the local food pantry, Camp Invention, and Ballard Education Foundation. Payton has been awarded varsity letters and Academic All-Conference 2020-2024 in volleyball, tennis, and softball. This fall she will be attending University of Northern Iowa.

Elizabeth Eberle is the daughter of Matthew Eberle and Brandi Kerwood of Marshalltown. Elizabeth attends Marshalltown High School where she's the vice president of the Student Senate, and a junior/student Rotarian. She's a member of the National Honor Society and a member leader in S.T.E.P. In her spare time, she enjoys being with friends, sewing, and playing tennis. This fall she will be attending Iowa State University.

Lillian Fischer is the daughter of Scott and Jaia Fischer of Melbourne. Lillian attends West Marshall High School where she is the Senior Class President, the Student Council President, the FFA Co-vice President, the Melbourne 4-H President, and the Chapter Reporter for the National Honor Society. She earned academic letters each semester in high school and is a repeated varsity letter winner in softball, volleyball, wrestling, track, and as a football statistician. Lillian was crowned the Central Iowa Fair Queen in 2023. This fall she will be attending Iowa State University.

Abby Hilleman is the daughter of Bryan and Sharon Hilleman of State Center. Abby attends West Marshall High School where she is a member of the National Honor Society and Student Council. Abby has volunteered over 100 hours at West Marshall, St. Paul Lutheran Church, and within the community. She works the concession stands for school events, serves at her church's annual ice cream social, assists with vacation bible school, and packages meals at Meals for the Heartland. Abby also enjoys playing Bingo at the community's nursing home and delivering meals for Meals on Wheels. This fall she will be attending University of Northern Iowa.

Elisa Kendall is the daughter of Chad and Nicole Kendall of Marshalltown. Elisa attends West Marshall High School where she is a member of the National Honor Society and Student Council. She participates in volleyball, soccer, football cheerleading, and wrestling cheerleading. Elisa earned a white cord for volunteering over 100 hours, ran the concession stand during school events, oversaw the score table during home volleyball tournaments, served hot chocolate during Christmas on Main, and volunteered at the Veteran's Home before being employed there as a CNA. This fall she will be attending the University of Iowa.

Natalie Nichols is the daughter of Brad and Marci Nichols of Marshalltown. Natalie attends West Marshall High School where she is the Vice President of FFA, member of the leadership team for Student Council, and a member of the National Honor Society. Natalie serves as the captain for cheer, volleyball, basketball, and golf teams. Natalie is a member of the two-time golf state qualifying team and earned the title of state runner up. Her strong passion for the agricultural industry led her to be the president of the Mid Iowa Youth Beef Team for the past four years. Natalie holds the crown as the 2024 State Center Rose Queen. This fall she will be attending Iowa State University.

Logan Rainsbarger is the son of Charlie and Susan Rainsbarger of Kellogg. Logan attends Baxter Community High School where he is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council, and Big Bolt/Little Bot (similar to Big Brother/Big Sister). Logan participated in cross country, basketball, and track all four years of high school. He volunteers as a referee or score keeper at Baxter Rec basketball games. He also delivers food pantry items to area residents. This fall he will be attending Simpson College.

Ruth Turczynski is the daughter of Scott and Anita Turczynski of Ankeny. Ruth attends North Polk High School where she is the secretary for their chapter of the National Honor Society. She has participated in pep band, jazz band, concert band, marching band, and both group and individual speech all four years of high school. Ruth has been in seven different plays or musical productions during her time in high school. Her hobbies include drawing, playing piano, playing video games, and reading fantasy and sci-fi novels. This fall she will be attending Iowa State University.

LINEWORKER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS:

Holden Simms is the son of Jeff and Cassidy Simms. Holden attends West Marshall High School where he is a captain on the football team, a group leader for the wrestling and baseball teams. He is a mentor for the Big Brother Big Sister program. Holden loves going boating and camping with his family, golfing with his friends, and going biking or working construction with his dad. Special interests of his include his faith, listening to music, and traveling. This fall he will be attending Northwest Iowa Community College.

Wade Weuve is the son of Travis and Candy Weuve of State Center. Wade attends West Marshall High School where he is a member of the National Honor Society and FFA. He was awarded Wrestler of the Year 2024-2025, 2A Honorable Mention All-State for football, and Academic All-Conference in wrestling, football, and soccer. Wade is the current President of the Clemons Clippers 4-H Club and is on the Dean's List at Marshalltown Community College. This fall he will be attending Midwest Line College – Missouri Valley JATC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CONSUMERS ENERGY'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, CONTACT BILLING & EDUCATION COORDINATOR TAMI KERWOOD AT 800-696-6552 OR TKERWOOD@CONSUMERSENERGY.COOP.

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

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Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

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cgriffieon@consumersenergy.coop

Tony Lem

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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



WATER HEATERS

- Consumers Energy stocks and sells Marathon energy efficient electric water heaters.



for bill payment options

FREE PAYMENT OPTIONS

- ALL of Consumers Energy's payment options are FREE for members!

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