

The Spotlight



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative



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- PIE&G's Budget Plan
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September 2015

SIGN UP FOR THE BUDGET PLAN!

While you can't predict Michigan's weather, you can count on PIE&G's Budget Plan to help keep your energy costs steady year-round. The Budget Plan lets you spread out your annual energy costs into equal monthly payments. It's a great way to help manage your household budget.

The Budget Plan* starts October each year and runs through September. We estimate your total annual energy bills for the coming year based on your previous 12 months. The annual total is averaged and divided into 11 equal payments. The 12th month (September) bill will include the difference if you used more than what you paid. If you used less and overpaid, you'll receive a credit in September.

If you are already enrolled in the Budget Plan and paid up, there is no need to take any action. Your enrollment will continue. **If you are enrolled in Auto Pay Plan, please review your September bill to insure sufficient funds are available to cover your reconciliation balance, which may be higher than your usual budget payment.**

**Eligibility requirements apply. Members participating in assistance programs, such as the Winter Protection and Shut-off Protection Plan, are not eligible for the Budget Plan.*



HOME HEATING CREDIT (HHC)

FILE BY SEPT. 30

If you have a low income or are receiving public assistance or unemployment compensation, you may be eligible for the Home Heating Credit (HHC). Application forms must be filed with the Michigan Department of Treasury by **September 30**. The Department of Treasury determines eligibility based on household income, exemptions, and heating costs. Filing a state income tax return is not a requirement.

The HHC may only be used for home heating costs (natural gas, propane, fuel oil) and may not be used for electric bills unless electric heat is used in the home. Payment vouchers (energy drafts) are issued to the applicant or directly to the heat provider. The HHC must match the name on the account. If the credit is issued to two people, both must sign off on the back to authorize payment to the heat provider.

For more information, visit www.michigan.gov/heatingassistance, or call 1-800-827-4000 to request that the forms be mailed to you. Forms and instructions are also available at most public libraries, post offices and at Secretary of State branch offices.

ANNUAL MEETING



Mark your calendar and plan to attend!

at Onaway High School. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m.

The General Business session will begin at 10:00 a.m. Members will hear various reports on their cooperative. The meeting will conclude with director election results and door prizes. Lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the meeting.

For more information on the annual meeting and your director candidate ballot, please refer to your September/October issue of *Country Lines* magazine.

Mark you calendar and plan to attend!



In accordance with its bylaws, PIE&G will conduct its annual meeting of the membership on **Friday, October 23rd**

PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

CARBON MONOXIDE CAN BE DEADLY

You can't see or smell carbon monoxide, but at high levels it can kill a person in minutes. Carbon monoxide (CO) is produced whenever any fuel such as gas, oil, kerosene, wood, or charcoal is burned. If appliances that burn fuel are maintained and used properly, the amount of CO produced is usually not hazardous. However, if appliances are not working properly or are used incorrectly, dangerous levels of CO can result. Hundreds of people die accidentally every year from CO poisoning caused by malfunctioning or improperly used fuel-burning appliances. Even more die from CO produced by idling cars. Fetuses, infants, elderly people, and people with anemia or with a history of heart or respiratory disease can be especially susceptible.



**IF YOU SMELL GAS OR
 SUSPECT A GAS LEAK
 CALL 1-800-656-8565
 IMMEDIATELY**

SCHOOL'S OPEN

PLEASE WATCH FOR STUDENTS



Motorists are urged to use caution when driving in school zones and when school buses are visible.

UTILITY FLAGS

When a homeowner or company contacts the Miss Dig system, utility companies must mark their utilities within 3 days of the request. This allows whoever is going to be digging in the area to know that utilities are underground. These flags are to stay in the ground for 3 weeks. Removing them prior to that time could result in damage to property or cause injury.

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Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op

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