

The Spotlight

What's Inside

- AP2, AP3, AND AP4 ARE OPEN FOR FIBER APPLICATIONS
- WINTER ELECTRICAL SAFETY
- WINTER TREE TRIMMING



• Owned by Those We Serve • Locally Controlled • Committed to Community • Not for Profit •

January 2026



Join the Connect Family

AP2, AP3, and AP4 are now open and actively accepting fiber internet applications!

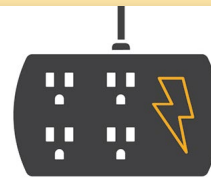
PIE&G Connect isn't just another internet provider. Our fiber network is built

by those who live in our community, for our community. We offer 24/7 support, built-in network security, affordable monthly packages tailored to every budget, autopay discounts, and more!

Sign up today at piegconnect.com.

For 24/7 white-glove technical support, call 888-803-3453.

Winter Electrical Safety: Protect Your Home



SURGE PROTECTION

Keep your electronic equipment safe.

A power surge is typically caused by lightning, changes in electrical loads, faulty wiring or damaged power lines.

Install power strips with surge protection to protect sensitive equipment.

- Easy to use (just plug them in)
- Protect electronics plugged into the device
- Must be replaced over time or after a major surge event



REMEMBER:

Not all power strips offer surge protection. Carefully read the packaging labels when purchasing.

Cold weather means more electrical risks from using devices like space heaters and electric blankets. Electrical failure causes an estimated **47,700 home fires** annually in the U.S.

Safeguard your family this winter with these tips:

- ❖ **Avoid Overloading Outlets:** Plug appliances directly into wall outlets. Use of extension cords for major appliances is dangerous.
- ❖ **Space Heater Safety:** Keep them at least three feet away from flammable items and never leave them unattended.
- ❖ **Inspect Heating Pads & Electric Blankets:** Check for fraying, charring, or damaged cords. Replace electric blankets older than 10 years.
- ❖ **Use Generators Safely:** Run portable generators **outside only** in a well-ventilated area, away from doors, windows, and vents to prevent deadly carbon monoxide poisoning.

COMMUNITY

Operation Round Up

The PIE&G Communities First Fund, established in 1998, supports the philanthropic needs of organizations within our service area, focusing on humanitarian, youth, educational, and civic development projects. Our independent Board of Directors determines fund allocations.

This fund assists local emergency responders, fire departments, youth organizations, law enforcement, charities, and schools. Members can participate by voluntarily rounding up their utility bills to the next whole dollar, averaging about 50 cents a month—tax-deductible and totaling around \$6 annually per meter.

Consider joining the PIE&G Communities First Fund by completing the enrollment form or contacting our Member Services Department at 800-423-6634. Small donations can make a BIG difference; over \$1.5 million has been returned to support our communities! pieg.com/communities-first/

Member Notice

Starting December 31st, all meter readings obtained automatically through AMI will be posted at the end of each month, regardless of billing cycle.

This change is being implemented to streamline our processes and ensure a more efficient handling of data.

Happy New Year!



January 2026

Winter Energy Savings Tips

Winter weather can cause your home heating system to work overtime. Check for air leaks and drafts around doors and windows, then seal them with weatherstripping or caulk. Close fireplace dampers when not in use and consider installing insulating curtains to help keep warm air inside. You can also save energy by lowering your thermostat a few degrees. Even small adjustments like these can reduce heating costs and improve comfort during the coldest months.

Source: energystar.gov

High School Scholarships for Graduating Seniors

Don't miss your chance to apply for scholarships from the PIE&G Communities First Fund! Since 1999, we've been supporting students in Michigan with awards that can help you achieve your educational goals.

Applications are due by March 1, 2026.

Scholarships include:

- \$1,000 General Scholarship
- \$1,000 Nathan W. Douglas Mechanical/Vocational Scholarship
- \$1,000 Murville & Caroline Douglas Musical Scholarship
- \$750 Peterson Vocational Scholarship
- \$500 A.B. Travis Scholarship

To apply, visit pieg.com/communities-first/ and submit your application by 4:30 PM on March 1, 2026. Awards will be announced by June 1st!



Winter Tree Trimming

We trim trees year-round. Trees that grow too close to power lines can cause power outages. We balance preserving nature with delivering reliable electricity.

Here is why tree trimming matters:

- Tree trimming helps prevent outages caused by fallen limbs during storms. Overgrown vegetation is responsible for about half of all power disruptions.
- Trees near power lines can pose serious risks. We trim to reduce the danger of arcing and prevent accidents.
- Tree trimming helps keep costs lower for everyone.

If you spot an overgrown tree, let us know!



What if saving money on your energy bill was as easy as answering a few quick questions? Now it is!

PIE&G is offering members a free customized Energy Saving Kit filled with easy-to-install tools to help lower energy use and reduce costs. Simply complete a short online assessment and shipped right to your door.



Scan the QR or click here to take your assessment!

**Kits are customized based on responses. But could include a smart thermostat, shower optimizers, faucet aerators, door weather stripping, and water heater pipe insulator.*

ACT NOW! Kits are limited, complete your online assessment today!

Update Your Contact Information

Just a friendly reminder! For updated contact info, call us at 800-423-6634. It's crucial for power outage updates and emergencies!

Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op

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- Locally Controlled •
- Committed to Community •
- Not for Profit •

3149 Main Street
P.O. Box 308
Onaway, MI 49765

989-733-8515
800-423-6634
www.pieg.com

GAS EMERGENCY ONLY
800-655-8565

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No additional charge for using your credit card.

We offer many convenient ways to pay! Learn more:



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