

The Spotlight

What's Inside

- CO-OP DIFFERENCE
- PAD MOUNT TRANSFORMER
- TREE PLANTING



June 2026

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



COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES: A GUIDE TO SHARED SUCCESS



What Makes a Co-op Different from a For-Profit Utility

Utilities may seem the same on the surface, but the way they operate can be very different. Electric cooperatives like PIE&G are not-for-profit and member-owned, which means decisions are made with people in mind, not shareholders.

Instead of generating profits for investors, co-ops reinvest revenue back into the system and return value to members through capital credits. Members also have a voice, with decisions guided by the Seven Cooperative Principles, including open membership, democratic control, and a strong focus on community.

That difference shows up when it matters most. During major events like the recent ice storm, cooperatives work together through mutual aid to restore power quickly, even while their own employees are affected. It is a model built on collaboration, local decision-making, and service.

At its core, a co-op exists to provide reliable service with transparency and care. That is what sets it apart.

Plant Trees Safely

Before you dig, call 811 to locate buried utility lines.

LOW TREE ZONE

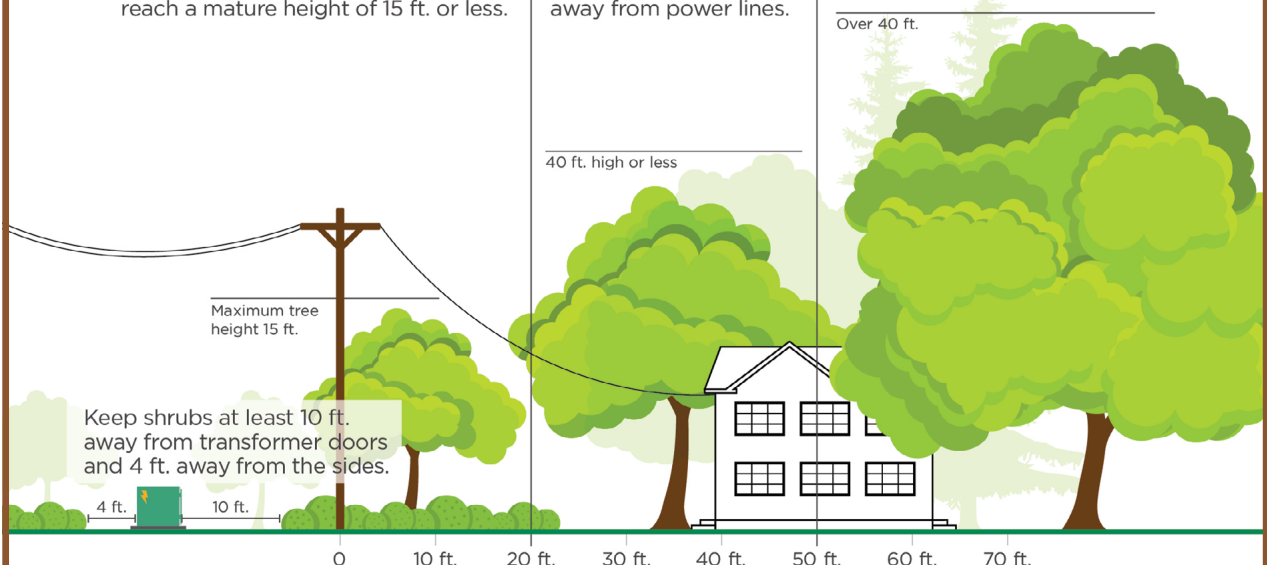
Avoid planting within 20 ft. of power lines. If planting is unavoidable, only plant shrubs and small trees that reach a mature height of 15 ft. or less.

MEDIUM TREE ZONE

Plant medium trees (under 40 ft. when mature) at least 25 ft. away from power lines.

LARGE TREE ZONE

Plant large trees (over 40 ft. when mature) at least 50 ft. away from power lines.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY TIP OF THE MONTH

During these warm summer months, a smart thermostat can help keep your home comfortable while reducing cooling costs. Smart thermostats learn your routine and automatically raise the temperature when you're away and cool things down before you return, avoiding unnecessary energy use. You can also adjust settings remotely from your phone, so you're never cooling an empty house. Setting your thermostat a few degrees higher while you're away or asleep can lead to significant savings. Many smart thermostats provide reports and tips, helping you fine-tune your energy use and stay cool while keeping your electric bill in check.



What Are Those Green Boxes?



Have you ever noticed a green box near your home and wondered what it's for? That's a pad-mount transformer, a key part of PIE&G's underground electric system.

These boxes help safely deliver electricity to homes and buildings. Even though they sit at ground level, they're just as powerful and important as overhead transformers.

Here's how to stay safe around them:

- Never touch or play on them – they're not playgrounds.
- Keep the area clear – maintain a 10-foot space around them for easy access.
- Don't paint or decorate them – safety markings must stay visible.
- Never dig nearby – underground wires can pose serious risks.
- Report damage or issues – call us if you notice anything unusual.

These green boxes help keep your power reliable. Treat them with care, and help keep everyone safe.

Enroll in Autopay for Convenience with PIE&G

Here are four easy ways to sign up:

1. Visit pieg.com/payment-option
2. Use the free MYPIE&G app on Google Play or the Apple Store. Complete the ACH form for bank payments and mail it to PIE&G, P.O. Box 308, Onaway, MI 49765.
3. Call our automated phone system at 1-855-939-3541.
4. Visit us in person at 3149 Main Street, Onaway, MI 49765.

Enjoy hassle free payments, avoid late fees, and save \$5 per month when you enroll in AutoPay with your PIE&G Connect fiber internet subscription. This discount is available exclusively for PIE&G Connect fiber subscribers. Simplify your payments and start saving today.

Note: Each account must be enrolled individually.

A Fresh Start for Savings

Rebates are made easy with the Michigan Electric Cooperative Online Marketplace.

Our online marketplace is a convenient way for Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op members to find trusted energy-efficient products, designed to help lower your home energy use. The best part? Every marketplace item qualifies for a rebate from PIE&G!

After making a purchase through the online marketplace don't forget to apply for your rebate at pieg.com/energy-optimization-rebates/.



Fresh Energy Savings



Scan the QR code to visit the marketplace or visit meca.coop/marketplace/



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We will gladly accept your Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express.

No additional charge for using your credit card.

We offer many convenient ways to pay! Learn more:



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