

The Spotlight

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May 2025

May is Electrical Safety Month

May is Electrical Safety Month – a great time to check your home and workspaces for potential hazards. From inspecting cords and outlets to educating kids and testing alarms, small steps can prevent big problems.

Stay safe, stay aware, and remember – when in doubt, call a licensed electrician.

Inspect Cords and Plugs

Regularly check power cords for signs of fraying, cracking, or damage. Replace damaged cords immediately and avoid running them under rugs or furniture.

Don't Overload Outlets

Plugging too many devices into a single outlet can cause overheating and increase fire risk. Use surge protectors and follow the recommended wattage for each outlet.

Use GFCIs in Wet Areas

Install Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs) in bathrooms, kitchens, garages, and outdoor areas to help prevent electric shock in moisture-prone spaces.

Unplug Unused Devices

Devices left plugged in still draw power and could overheat. Unplugging saves energy and reduces the chance of electrical fires.

Teach Kids About Electrical Safety

Educating children early about the dangers of electricity can prevent accidents. Simple steps like using outlet covers and setting clear rules can go a long way.

MEMORIAL DAY CLOSURE

The PIE&G office will be closed on Monday, May 26, 2025, in observance of Memorial Day.

Members can make payments in the following ways:

- Dropbox at our office
- By phone at 1-866-999-4571
- Online at pieg.com
- Through the MYPIE&G mobile app

For emergencies, please call 1-800-423-6634.

Communities First Fund High School Scholarships Awarded

The PIE&G Communities First Fund Board of Directors is pleased to announce that fifteen (15) \$1,000 scholarships were awarded to the following high school seniors:

- **Cheboygan:** Nola Ecker, Lily Wright
- **Gaylord:** Kylee Hopp
- **Hillman:** Autumn Lis
- **Inland Lakes:** Brooklyn LaBrecque
- **Onaway:** Sadie Decker, Ema DeMaestri, Kailyn George, Grace Watson
- **Petoskey:** Ainslee Glass
- **Posen:** Alexis Bedard, John Ennest, Aubrey Kowalski, Maddison Styma
- **Roger City:** Brianne Hickel
- **The A. Barkley Travis Memorial Scholarship**, valued at \$500, was awarded to Lena Bisson from Roger City High School.
- **The Peterson Vocation School Scholarship**, valued at \$750, was awarded to Kason Hart from Cheboygan High School.
- **The Murville & Caroline Douglas Scholarship**, valued at \$1,000, was awarded to Amelie Hanson from Petoskey High School.
- **The Nathan W. Douglas Scholarship**, valued at \$1,000, was awarded to Andrew Budnick from Posen High School.

Director Nominations

PIE&G is accepting nominations for its Board of Directors. In 2025, three seats are up for election: two in Alpena County and one in Presque Isle County. Any qualified member-owner is eligible to run.

To be considered, submit a letter of interest by May 27, 2025, to Nominating Committees, PIE&G, PO Box 308, Onaway, MI 49765. Petitions are due by July 15, 2025. Details about the Annual Meeting on October 24, 2025, in Hillman will follow. Learn more and review eligibility requirements at pieg.com.



Communities First Fund Grants Awarded

At a recent meeting, the PIE&G Communities First Fund Board of Directors finalized awards of \$15,907.11 in grants to the recipients listed below.

ALPENA

Alpena Youth Center (\$1,200) for the purchase of one oven for their kitchen to help them prepare nutritious and homemade meals that follow USDA food guidelines. They are a childcare center that feeds 75-100 children each day (breakfast, lunch, and snack).

Foster Closet of Northern MI (\$2,500) for the purchase of supplies that are required for the foster children's basic needs, such as: underwear, socks, diapers, baby wipes, beds and so much more. They also hold special events for foster families such as an upcoming Easter egg hunt.

CHEBOYGAN

Alverno Fire B's Association (\$499) for the purchase of smoke detectors to give out during their Community Open House event. They are holding the open house so that youth and families can explore and learn about fire safety in a safe and interactive environment.

Forest Waverly Township Fire Department (\$5,000) for the purchase of 13 self-contained breathing apparatus packs. Self-contained breathing apparatus packs are a personal protective equipment that supplies breathable air to the firefighters in dangerous environments with oxygen deficiency, smoke, and dangerous gases. The equipment allows them to enter areas that pose an immediate danger to life and health.

Rivertown Follies, Inc (\$508.11) for the purchase of supplies for the set of their 2025 show. Proceeds of the Rivertown Follies 2025 show benefit local charities.

MONTMORENCY

Hillman Community Schools (\$2,000) for the purchase of new band chairs. The chairs and stands they currently use are well-worn and past their acceptable and reasonable period of use. The band is growing, and they also do not have enough chairs and stands for the next year.

Tri Township Ambulance Service (\$2,200) for the purchase of 10 rescue jackets to help them provide services in the cold weather. Crews are subjected to lengthy periods outside in the elements for auto rescues, ice rescues, lost individuals, and other circumstances.

PRESQUE ISLE

Presque Isle Conservation District (\$2,000) towards the cost of materials to improve the trails at Herman Vogler Conservation Area. Trails are being made wider with more even surfaces to improve access to people with differing levels of mobility.

Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op

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Presque Isle Energy Optimization programs and rebates are applicable to Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op electric service locations only. Rebate applies to qualified items purchased and installed between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025. Other restrictions may apply. For complete program details, visit pieg.com/eo.