

# The Spotlight



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## What's Inside

- Annual Meeting Oct. 27th
- National Cooperative Month
- New Internet Packages Beginning Soon
- Winter Protection Plan

October 2023



## NATIONAL COOPERATIVE MONTH!

Celebrate National Cooperative Month with us! Cooperatives unite communities and bring positive change. From our principles to our commitment, we're proud to be part of the cooperative spirit. Join us in embracing the power of Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-Op.

Join us for our Annual Membership meeting on October 27th at Posen High School. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The

general business session starts at 10:00 a.m., where members will hear reports on cooperative financial operations and current initiatives. The meeting concludes with director election results. Lunch will be provided following the meeting.

**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR  
AND PLAN  
TO ATTEND!**

## WINTER PROTECTION PLAN: KEEP WARM, STAY PROTECTED!

### *Stay Cozy This Winter with Our Winter Protection Plan (WPP)!*

Designed to protect seniors and low-income members, the WPP prevents service shut-offs and high utility bill payments from November 1 to March 31.

**Participation in WPP does not relieve customers from the responsibility of paying for their electric and natural gas usage but can prevent shut-off during winter months.**

Members are eligible to apply for WPP with PIE&G if they meet any of the following requirements:

- Age 65 or older, or
- Receive Medicaid, or
- Receive Food Assistance, or
- Have a household income at or below 150% of the poverty level.

### **Low-Income Members Will Maintain Service from Nov 1 through March 31, as long as you:**

- **Contact PIE&G to provide proof of eligibility and sign an agreement.**
- Pay at least 7% of your estimated annual bill each month, and
- Make equal monthly payments on any past-due bills between the date you apply and the start of your next heating season.

### **Senior Citizens (65 or older) Members Will Maintain Service from Nov 1 through March 31, as long as you:**

- **Contact PIE&G and sign an agreement.**
- Seniors are encouraged to pay what they can over the winter to avoid large, unmanageable bills and shut off once the protection period ends.
- At the end of the protection period, contact PIE&G to make payment arrangements for unpaid balances prior to the next heating season.

## NEW INTERNET PACKAGES START THIS MONTH!

Starting October 1st, we will be offering additional internet package options tailored to meet your needs. As we continuously strive to meet our members' needs with additional packages, we've also updated our current pricing to better align with market conditions.

Check out the new pricing and packages, effective from October 1, 2023:

- **100 MB: \$64.95 per month**
- **250 MB: \$79.95 per month**
- **500 MB: \$89.95 per month**
- **1 GIG: \$99.95 per month**

And remember, you can enjoy a \$5 monthly discount with Auto Pay enrollment.

Thank you for your support as we continue to improve our services. For any questions, reach out to our Member Services team at 1-800-423-6634 or visit [www.pieconnect.com](http://www.pieconnect.com).



October 2023

Owned By Those We Serve . . . Locally Controlled . . . Committed to Community . . . Not For Profit

## IMPORTANT CAPITAL CREDITS UPDATE: A STRONGER FINANCIAL FUTURE TOGETHER!

Here's an essential update on our Capital Credits, which play a crucial role in our cooperative's financial health and your investment in our shared success.

Capital credits are your contributions to our cooperative's growth and development. They're retired and refunded when our board of directors is confident it won't harm our financial stability. Until then, these allocated, unretired margins serve as your way of directly supporting our operations, enabling us to fund essential projects, expand our services, and reduce borrowing and interest expenses.

Initially, we planned to retire \$817,000.00 in Capital Credits for 2023. However, our board of directors has decided to maintain these credits within the cooperative. Why, you ask? It's all about securing our financial foundation, especially in light of our recent investments. This decision ensures we can continue to grow and deliver top-notch services without compromise.

Your commitment and support empower us to thrive as a cooperative, ensuring a bright and prosperous future for all of us.

## HALLOWEEN CYBER SAFETY TIPS!

**Don't Get Spooked by Phishing:** Watch out for spooky emails and texts. Treat every link and attachment with caution. Don't let cyber goblins trick you into revealing personal info!

**Costume Your Passwords:** Dress up your passwords with a mix of letters, numbers, and symbols. Make them strong and unique like your favorite Halloween costume!

**Haunted Hotspots:** Beware of ghostly public Wi-Fi networks. They might be haunted by cyber-criminals. Use a virtual broomstick (VPN) to fly safely through the digital fog.

**Monster-Proof Your Social Media:** Share Halloween fun, but be cautious about revealing too much personal info. Cyber witches can brew up trouble with your data.

Stay safe and have a spook-tacular Halloween!

## 2023 TOUR PARTICIPANTS



(L-R) Maggie Grant, Inland Lakes; Hailey Lucas, Posen; Morgan Arbour, Hillman

Meet our 2023 Youth Tour Participants. These lovely students joined more than 1,500 other students across America to take part in the Youth Tour and travel to Washington, D.C. They met their U.S. Representatives and Senators and explored historical museums, memorials, and monuments. To learn more about the Cooperative Youth Tour, visit <https://pieg.com/youth-programs/>.



**Schedule a free energy consultation for your home, business, or farm today.**

A PIE&G Energy Advisor will visit you to perform an assessment, discuss concerns, help you understand utility costs, and identify areas of improvement.

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EMAIL [info@michigan-energy.org](mailto:info@michigan-energy.org)



Presque Isle Energy Optimization programs and incentives are applicable to Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op electric service locations only. Incentive applies to qualified items purchased and installed between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023. Other restrictions may apply. For complete program details, visit [pieg.com](https://pieg.com).

## Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op

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