

The Spotlight

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October 2024

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 at our annual meeting on **November 1, 2024**, 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 the financial operations and current initiatives at the Co-op.

The meeting concludes with the director election results. Lunch will be provided following the meeting.

Winter Protection Plan: Stay Warm and Protected!

Our Winter Protection Plan (WPP) keeps seniors and low-income members safe from service shut-offs from November 1 to March 31. While WPP doesn't cover your utility costs, it prevents winter shut-offs.*

Eligibility - Meet Any of the Following Requirements:

- Age 65 or older
- Receive Medicaid or Food Assistance
- Household income at or below 150% of the poverty level

Low-Income Members:

- Contact PIE&G to apply and sign an agreement
- Pay at least 7% of your estimated annual bill each month
- Make equal payments on past-due bills

Seniors (65+):

- Contact PIE&G to apply and sign an agreement
- Pay what you can over winter to avoid large bills later
- Arrange payment for unpaid balances before the next heating season

**Participation in WPP does not relieve members from the responsibility of paying their electric and natural gas bills but can prevent shut-offs during winter months.*

Advanced Meter Infrastructure Benefits

PIE&G is in the final stages of deploying Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) in our electric service territory. We are beginning the process of installing AMI modules on our gas meters. Installing AMI modules on our gas meters will offer many benefits to our system, to our membership, and to the communities we serve. What are the benefits to you as a member?

• Reliability & Safety

Like our electric AMI system, the gas AMI system will automatically record and inform the cooperative of daily readings. The daily readings will allow us to respond more quickly to meter issues and provide a more reliable and safer utility service.

• Accuracy & Billing

The second significant benefit will be accurate meter readings for billing purposes and energy consumption information, easily accessible to our members.

Spooky Cyber Safety Tips for October!



As we celebrate National Cybersecurity Month, remember that good cyber habits are crucial year-round! Here are some eerie-sounding yet essential tips to keep your digital world safe:



Spot & Report Phishing: Beware of spooky emails and messages trying to trick you into clicking bad links or downloading malware. If it feels off, report it and block the sender!

Craft Strong Passwords: Keep your passwords longer than a ghost's moan—at least 12 characters with a mix of letters, numbers, and symbols. Unique for each account, please!

Enable Multi-Factor Authentication: Add an extra layer of protection with 2-factor authentication. It's like having a digital haunt guard!

Update Software Regularly: Keep your devices fresh and updated to avoid nasty malware tricks.

Stay cyber-smart this October and beyond! For more tips, visit staysafeonline.org.





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Retirement Announcement

Congratulations to Richard Kieliszewski, our former Director of Information Technology, on his well-deserved retirement from PIE&G. We extend our heartfelt thanks for his remarkable 35 years of dedicated service to our Co-op and our members. His contributions have been invaluable, and we wish him all the best in his retirement.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY tip of the month

Take Advantage of the Inflation Reduction Act

If you recently made or plan to make energy efficiency improvements to your home, you may be eligible for federal tax credits. The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022 empowers homeowners to save money on energy efficiency improvements and upgrades. Homeowners can save up to \$3,000 annually to lower the cost of efficiency upgrades by up to 30%.

A few upgrades covered through the IRA include new exterior doors, windows, insulation, heating/cooling equipment, and other major appliances. If you completed an upgrade this year or are considering one, visit www.energystar.gov/federal-tax-credits to learn if you qualify for a tax credit.

Source: energystar.gov



Carve out savings with a Home Energy Consultation!



EMAIL info@michigan-energy.org

CALL 877-296-4319



Presque Isle Energy Optimization programs are applicable to Presque Isle Electric & Gas Co-op electric service locations only. Rebate applies to qualified items purchased and installed between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024. Other restrictions may apply. For complete program details, visit pieg.com/eo.



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PIE&G Connect Update

HK2 (which includes HG1, HG2, and HG4) is now open and actively taking service applications from electric members. You can find your zone information by looking at your billing statement and matching your map location to the map found under our fiber construction status map at pieg.com. Sign up today, call (800) 423-6634.

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