



Jackson Electric's Line Foreman Brian Schultz presents Breanne Nortman with a certificate honoring her as Jackson Electric Cooperative's Honorary Jr. Line Worker.

STUDENT RECOGNIZED AS JACKSON ELECTRIC HONORARY JR. LINE WORKER

One morning, Breanne Nortman was looking out the window of her father's vehicle on their way to Red Creek Elementary School in Black River Falls when she noticed that a power pole just didn't look right. She told her dad to stop the vehicle so that he could confirm the sighting.

Moments later, Dan Nortman, Breanne's father, made a call to Jackson Electric Cooperative notifying them of a leaning power pole. A crew was dispatched to the location. The crew found that the power pole was located in a creek bottom, and the recent heavy rains caused the soil to erode near the pole, causing the pole to lean. The line crew anchored the pole to prevent the pole from tumbling to the ground. This phone call may have prevented a possible power outage, and crews were able to correct a possible safety hazard.

Breanne knew something wasn't correct with the power pole because she remembered what she learned at one of Jackson Electric's hot line safety presentations. Every year, Jackson Electric works with the Black River Falls FFA Food for America program for which Jackson Electric's linemen conduct an electrical safety demonstration for fourth-grade students. Breanne attended the program last year.

Jackson Electric Line Foreman Brian Schultz and Safety and Compliance Officer Ben Bella recently recognized Breanne for her keen observation at a surprise fifth-grade assembly at the Red Creek Elementary School in Black River Falls. She was presented with a bag of goodies and was named Jackson Electric Cooperative's Honorary Jr. Line Worker.

"It's refreshing to know that the public electrical safety education that the cooperative invests in is paying off," says General Manager/CEO Kevin Babcock. "Electrical safety education programs are paramount to the rural areas."

Thank you to Breanne for having a sharp eye and being observant to her surroundings, and to Red Creek Elementary for helping organize the assembly. Breanne is the daughter of Dan and Melissa Nortman of rural Black River Falls.

For more information on Jackson Electric's safety demonstrations, please contact the office at 715.284.5385.



GIVING BACK



Kevin Babcock,
General Manager/
CEO

Concern for community is the seventh principle, and it is one that all employees of Jackson Electric Cooperative value year-round. But during the holiday season, concern for community seems especially important.

So many families go without on a daily basis and struggle to make ends meet. This struggle can be especially hard during the holiday season. There are many ways you can give back to the community that go beyond dollar donations. Take some time to go through your closets and find clothes that no longer fit or have lost their use. Bag those items up and take them to your local Salvation Army, Goodwill, or church clothing drive. Volunteer for a local food or toy drive, deliver meals to the sick and the elderly, or simply make a meal for a neighbor in need.

Jackson Electric will once again be the site for Project Christmas. This organization spreads Christmas cheer to those who are struggling to make ends meet. They welcome volunteers to help wrap gifts and box non-perishable food items for families.

No matter how great or small the act, every time we give back, we strengthen our community. So take the time to give back this holiday season. You'll be glad you did.

PROJECT CHRISTMAS OF JACKSON COUNTY WISCONSIN, INC.

Jackson Electric Cooperative will once again be the site for Project Christmas. The public is invited to volunteer to help wrap gifts and box food items on the following dates:

- Tuesday, December 13, at 6 p.m. – wrapping
- Thursday, December 15, at 6 p.m. – boxing
- Saturday, December 17 – delivery

Project Christmas is also accepting monetary donations. Those can be sent to Project Christmas, c/o Co-op Credit Union, P.O. Box 157, Black River Falls, WI 54615. Donations are tax deductible.





CAPITAL CREDIT RETIREMENT CHECKS SOON TO BE IN YOUR MAILBOX

Cooperative Principle #3: Member Economic Participation

If you were a member of Jackson Electric Cooperative during the years 1998, 1999, and part of 2000, you may receive a capital credit retirement check in the mail. You're receiving this retirement check because you are more than a customer, you're part-owner (member) of the cooperative.

Cooperative members share in the ownership, construction, maintenance, and prosperity of Jackson Electric. When

financial conditions allow, every member gets a "piece of the pie." The chart below shows how your membership pays you back.

Capital credits represent your ownership in Jackson Electric and are one of the most unique and rewarding benefits you enjoy as a member.

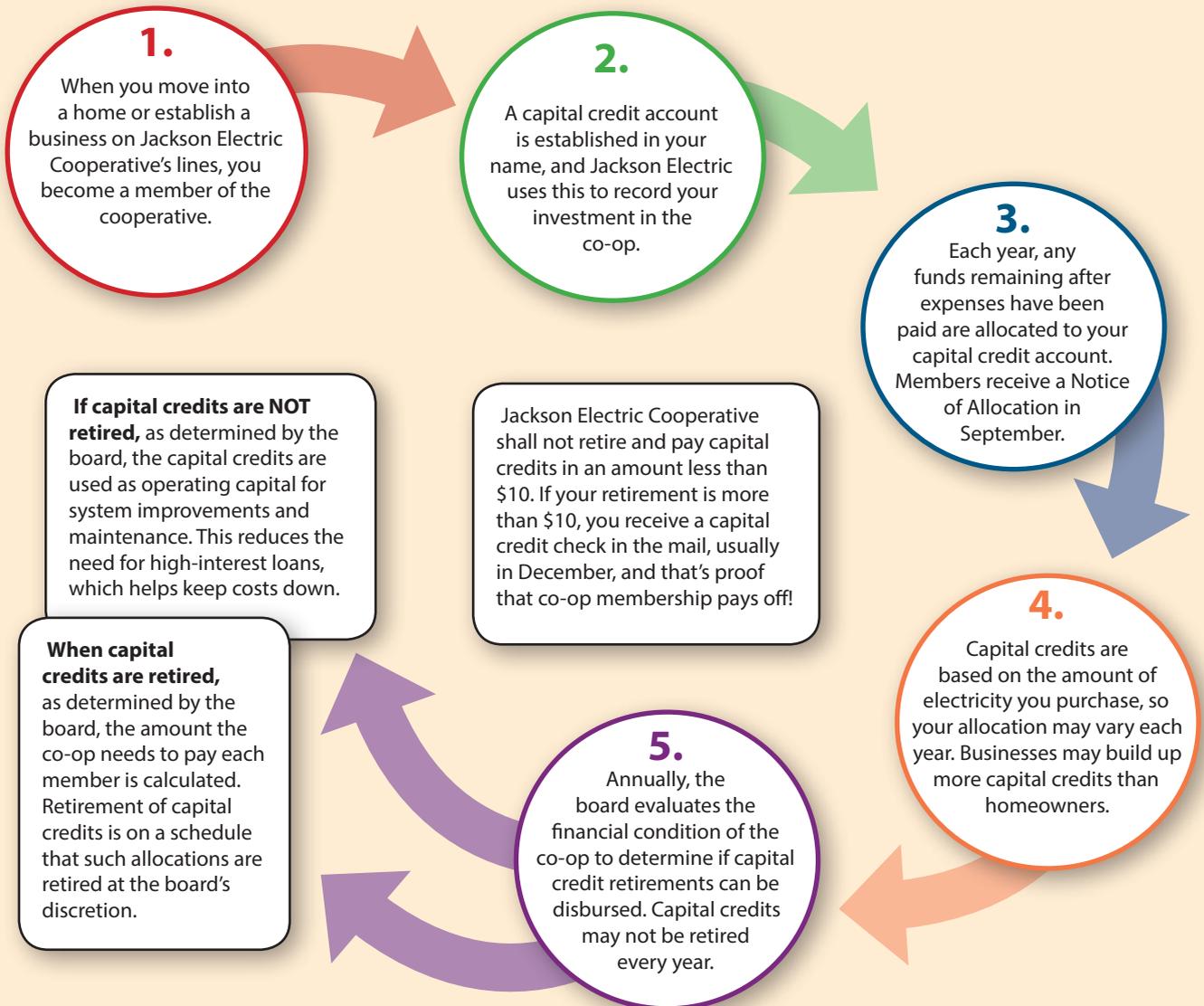
Capital Credit Account Reminders

If you move from Jackson Electric

Cooperative's service lines, please be sure to contact our office with your new address so we can continue to send to you any capital credit retirements you are eligible to receive in the future.

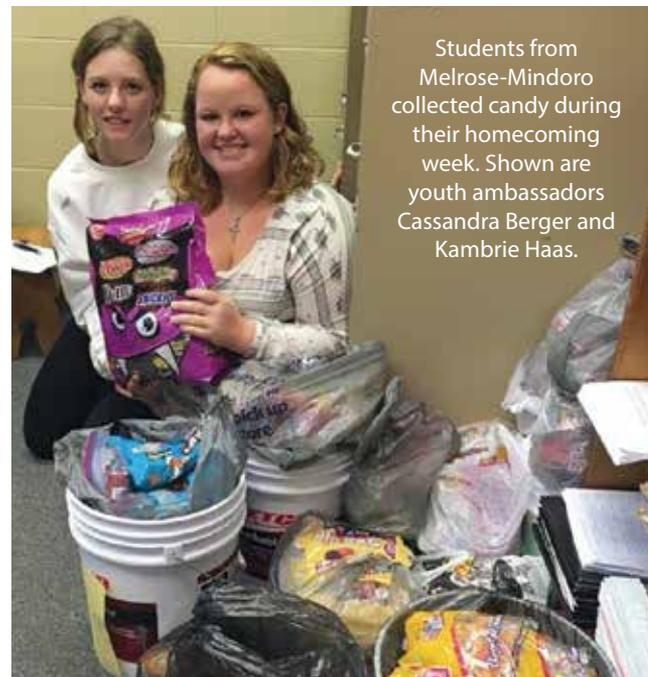
When a member passes away, the capital credit account is available for estate retirement. The representative of the estate should contact our office or go to jackelec.com to complete the required documentation.

How capital credits work:



YOUTH AMBASSADORS SURPRISE LOCAL NURSING HOMES

The Jackson Electric youth ambassadors collected more than 14,000 pieces of candy to donate to Pine View Nursing Home and Atrium Post Acute Care, both located in Black River Falls, for their annual trick-or-treat events on October 31. The students also painted pumpkins that were placed in the nursing homes for the residents and visitors to enjoy.



Students from Melrose-Mindoro collected candy during their homecoming week. Shown are youth ambassadors Cassandra Berger and Kambrie Haas.



DIRECTORS EARN TRAINING CERTIFICATES

Jackson Electric's directors Jerry Huber, left, and Brian Huber, right, were recently presented with certificates recognizing successful completion of board leadership training. Jerry Huber was presented with the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Director Gold Credential, and Brian Huber the Board Leadership Certificate, by President of the Board Gary Woods.

The Gold Credential recognizes directors who have earned their Credentialed Cooperative Director and Board Leadership certificates and are committed to continuing their education throughout their service on the board. The Board Leadership Certificate is earned after a director completes at least 10 credits of training in the following areas: the purpose and value of the cooperative business model, bylaws, policy development, ethics, and political engagement.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH WINNERS SELECTED

September's photo of the month winner was member Kim Ernstmeyer of Hixton. Kim took the photo below left near Northfield. The October photo of the month was submitted by Julie Kish of Mindoro. This was taken near Skoy Coulee Road in Mindoro. Each member received a \$25 energy credit and their

photos were displayed in Jackson Electric's front lobby. They also have bragging rights to the photos when they see them hanging on one of the walls at Jackson Electric.

Submit your December photos, taken in Jackson Electric's service territory, by December 31, 2016, for your chance to

win. Every month, until June 30, 2017, a winning photo will be selected. Several photos already are displayed on the walls at Jackson Electric.

Go to jackelec.com, Jackson Electric's Facebook page, or contact our office for photo contest rules and release for photo use.





INCREASE IN WATER HEATER PRICE

The cost of a 50-gallon water heater will increase from \$380 to \$400 plus tax as of January 1, 2017. This price increase is due to a manufacturer increase in price to Jackson Electric Cooperative.

Water heaters with a load management receiver continue to qualify for free parts and labor during the hours of 8 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on regular working days. Repairs done after-hours and on cooperative-recognized holidays are charged a \$150 service fee.

END OF THE YEAR DEADLINES

Geothermal federal tax credit expires December 31, 2016. Purchase and install a geothermal heat pump before the end of this year to qualify. Consult with your tax advisor or accountant to determine your own potential tax savings.

Jackson Electric Cooperative energy efficiency rebates on qualified Energy Star appliances, electric thermal storage central furnaces and room units, electric heat pumps, and lighting. To see a complete list of the rebates available, go to jackelec.com or contact our office. Rebate submission deadline is December 31, 2016.

OPERATING AN ELECTRIC SPACE HEATER = HIGHER ELECTRIC USAGE

Throughout the next three to four months, we will receive calls from members regarding high electric usage. For many, the culprit tends to be the use of a portable electric space heater.

Even though all electric space heaters are 100 percent efficient, they still use a considerable amount of electricity if used regularly. If you must, use an electric space heater for supplemental heat in a small area. They are not designed to heat your entire home. For an approximate operating cost of an electric space heater, use the following formula:



$$\text{Watts}/1,000 \times \$0.1130/\text{kWh} \times 8 \text{ hours of operation} = \text{cost}$$

For example, a 1,500-watt space heater operating eight hours a day for 30 days costs \$40.68 per month to operate.

There are more economical choices available to heat your home. Contact Jackson Electric Cooperative to learn more about cost-effective electric heat options.

PEAK ALERT FULL LOAD CONTROL HOURS

Peak alert full load control is possible during the months of December, January, and February between 5 and 10 p.m. When our power supplier, Dairyland Power, issues a full load control, notifications are announced on WWIS and WXXX affiliated radio stations and on Jackson Electric's Facebook page. Information can also be found on our website at jackelec.com; click on the "residential load control" tab.



Customer Service 715.284.5385
800.370.4607
Outage Reporting 855.222.DARK (3275)
Diggers Hotline 800.242.8511
www.jackelec.com    

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 546
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Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Board of Directors: Gary Woods, President
Jerry Huber, Vice President
David Peasley, Secretary-Treasurer
Daniel Smrekar, Junior Jacobson, Stanley Gran, Brian Huber, Chris Curran, Jerry Wagner
Kevin Babcock, General Manager/CEO

Jackson Electric Cooperative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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