

# NORTHERN

L I G H T S



**Beltrami Electric  
Cooperative Inc.**

® Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

October 2020

## 16<sup>th</sup> annual Beltrami Electric Touchstone Energy® Open raises \$10,455 for United Way of Bemidji Area



The 16<sup>th</sup> annual Beltrami Electric Touchstone Energy® Open was held Friday, Aug. 21, at Castle Highlands Golf Course, and raised \$10,455 for the United Way of Bemidji Area. The tournament format had to change a bit due to social distancing and abide by new safety protocols surrounding COVID-19, but that didn't deter participants. The four-person scramble featured scheduled tee times for players, compared to a shotgun start in previous years.

"Beltrami Electric's Touchstone Energy Open golf tournament has been a staple event for the United Way of Bemidji Area. Not only has the tournament given

hundreds of participants the opportunity to support their community, it's also helped thousands of people in our community to thrive. This event has raised more than \$143,500 since its inception," said Denae Alamano, executive director for the United Way of Bemidji Area. "We can't thank Beltrami Electric and their staff enough for the impact their event makes year after year!"

Beltrami Electric Cooperative would like to give a sincere thank-you to the business sponsors, the 92 golfers and the tournament volunteers on behalf of the United Way of Bemidji Area. This event wouldn't be possible without their continued support! *(article continued on page 4)*



First place went to the team of Arnold Pemberton, Jr., with a net score of 50. Pictured from left: Rob Pemberton, Jr., Daniel Johnson, Brent Pemberton, Sr. and Arnold Pemberton, Jr.



Second place went to the team of Paul Bunyan Communications with a net score of 55. Pictured from left: Dane Jones, Bob Lindberg, Don Dale and Brian Bissonette.



Third place went to the team of Bemidji Sports Centre, with a net score of 56. Pictured from left: Auston Zetah, Brandon Mattfeld, Shane Teigland and Richard Conner.

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United Way  
of Bemidji Area



# NORTHERN L I G H T S

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**Member Service:** 218-444-2540  
or 1-800-955-6083

[www.beltramielectric.com](http://www.beltramielectric.com)

## Board of Directors

Chair	John Lund, DISTRICT 7
Vice Chair	Sue Kringen, DISTRICT 8
Secretary	Murl Nord, DISTRICT 1 ( <i>Square Butte Director</i> )
Treasurer	Judy Honer, DISTRICT 9
Directors:	Charlie Perkins, DISTRICT 2; Charles Parson, DISTRICT 3; Craig Gaasvig, DISTRICT 4; Robert Wallner, DISTRICT 5; Rick Coe, DISTRICT 6 ( <i>Minnkota Director</i> )
President and CEO	Jared Echternach
Editor	Angela Lyseng

## Minnesota State Electrical Inspectors

*Beltrami County*

**Wade Koons**

218-255-3011 - [wade@koonsinspections.com](mailto:wade@koonsinspections.com)

*Cass and Hubbard Counties*

**Anthony Kohrs**

218-255-1046 - [kohrsinspection@paulbunyan.net](mailto:kohrsinspection@paulbunyan.net)

*These are the inspectors covering the area served by Beltrami Electric. They can be reached by phone Monday through Friday between 7 and 8:30 a.m. or by email as indicated.*

**Gopher State One Call 811**  
1-800-252-1166 or 811  
[www.gopherstateonecall.org](http://www.gopherstateonecall.org)

Anyone who plans to dig is required by law to notify the state of their intentions at least 48 hours in advance.

All digging requires the 48-hour notification so that buried telephone lines, television cables, pipelines, utility electrical lines, and municipal water and sewer lines can be located to ensure that none will be severed or damaged.

## Mission of Beltrami Electric Co-op

*To provide excellent value to our members through the safe delivery of reliable electric service, excellent member service and innovative energy solutions at fair and reasonable prices.*

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*



## Power On: October is National Co-op Month

Jared Echternach, *President and CEO*

As an electric cooperative, our top priority is always to provide safe, reliable energy to you, the member-owners we serve. Because we are a co-op, our mission is to enrich the lives of our members and serve the long-term interests of our local communities – and this mission has never been more critical than in recent months. One of the seven principles that guide all co-ops is “concern for community.” To me, this principle is the essential DNA of Beltrami Electric Cooperative and it sets us apart from other electric utilities.

October is National Co-op Month, and electric cooperatives across the country are highlighting the many ways we “Power On.” Keeping this theme in mind, I recognize the essential role we play in serving our special communities.

Who would have fathomed in March that the COVID-19 virus would amount to a test of our communities and our nation? The changing circumstances due to the pandemic have created both challenges and opportunities. Over the past several months, we’ve all been challenged to operate differently, and Beltrami Electric Cooperative has

stepped up to help our members and strengthen the safety net for our more vulnerable neighbors.

As an essential service, and to ensure reliability of your power supply, we modified our operations to safeguard business continuity. Our line crews and other employees began working on staggered schedules to maintain separation. Some employees worked remotely. In the office, we limited and modified meetings and gatherings to allow for safe separation. We also adjusted our walk-in office availability and in-person service calls to ensure the health and safety of our employees and our valued members. In addition, we have installed social distancing signage, Plexiglas barriers and hand sanitizers in our lobby. In these unprecedented times, we livestreamed the co-op’s annual meeting on YouTube and held a small business meeting in our community room to conduct essential cooperative business. For the health and safety of everyone, we think these measures were the prudent course of action for the times.

And while we certainly missed

Then. Now. Always.  
We're proud to power your life.  
October is National Co-op Month.

**#PowerOn**


visiting with you in person, we found new ways to stay connected. We increased our social media presence, adding Instagram to our social sites. We utilized our E-newsletter and our newly updated website to communicate with members about operational updates and options to do business remotely.

I tell you about all of these efforts to explain how much we care about our communities – because we live here, too.

We've seen other local businesses

rising to meet similar challenges during this time, because that's what communities do. While the challenges caused by COVID-19 have been daunting, I'm heartened to see how everyone is pulling together.

In 1940, our communities built Beltrami Electric Cooperative to serve our communities, and that's what we'll continue to do – Power On.



## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Beltrami Electric's board of directors conducted its regular monthly meeting Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2020. A quorum of directors were in attendance.

### The following reports were given:

- President and CEO Echternach made his monthly report, including an update to the cooperative's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, discussion on the cooperative financials and legislative issues affecting cooperatives.
- Arlene Hogquist gave the Financial and Statistical reports for June and July and presented the second quarter balanced performance scorecard.
- The annual meeting was discussed.
- Chair Lund appointed the CoBank voting delegate and union negotiations committee.
- Murl Nord discussed Square Butte.
- The board congratulated Judy Honer on her receipt of the Red Lantern Award for 10 years of service on the Beltrami Electric Cooperative board of directors.
- Rick Coe discussed Minnkota Power and Minnesota Rural Electric Association.
- Directors and president and CEO Echternach discussed various items including upcoming meetings, educational classes and events.

### The following actions were taken:

- Elected John Lund as chair, Sue Kringen as vice chair, Murl Nord as secretary and Judy Honer as treasurer.
- Elected John Lund as governor to Cooperative Development, LLC.
- Approved the consent agenda.
- Approved scheduling the 2021 annual meeting on Aug. 11, 2021, at the Beltrami County Fairgrounds.
- Appointed Barbara Siler to the Beltrami Electric Cooperative Trust Board.

The next board meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2020.

## Judy Honer receives Red Lantern Award



Judy Honer, Beltrami Electric Cooperative board treasurer, was presented with the Red Lantern Award from Minnkota Power Cooperative, recognizing her 10 years of loyal service as a cooperative board member. The award reads: *"Just as the lantern was the friendly symbol of light in rural neighborhoods in bygone days, so is rural electrification the symbol of this era of abundant light, progress and better living."* Congratulations, Judy!

## BELTRAMI ELECTRIC BOARD REORGANIZES

Each year following the annual meeting, your board of directors holds its organizational meeting. Congratulations to our board officers on their election – John Lund, chair; Sue Kringen, vice chair; Murl Nord, secretary; and Judy Honer, treasurer. John Lund was also elected to serve on Cooperative Development's board of governors.



**John Lund**  
Chair



**Sue Kringen**  
Vice Chair



**Murl Nord**  
Secretary



**Judy Honer**  
Treasurer

*Is your off-peak heating system*

# Ready for Winter?

It's hard to believe winter is right around the corner. Since weather conditions and future wholesale power prices make the amount of load control hard to predict, all of our members with off-peak heating systems are encouraged to have a reliable, automatic back-up heating system in place and ready to use when needed.

To ensure your total comfort this winter, consider the following questions:

1. Is the system sized to heat your entire home or business?
2. Does it maintain an adequate comfort level?
3. Is it fully automatic?

Check current fuel prices and be sure to fill your propane or fuel oil tank at the beginning of the season. Also, make sure your tank is large enough to hold an adequate supply. If your tank gets low during periods of extreme cold temps, it may not work properly.

**Contact our Energy Experts today at (218) 444-2540 to find out more about off-peak heating and the incentives available for the installation of new off-peak electric heating equipment.**

## 16<sup>th</sup> annual Beltrami Electric Touchstone Energy® Open raises \$10,455 for United Way of Bemidji Area

*(article continued from page 1)*



The Beltrami Electric Touchstone Energy® Open golf tournament committee presents a check for \$10,455 to the United Way of the Bemidji Area. Pictured left to right: Angela Lyseng, Cammie Vogel, United Way Executive Director Denae Alamano, Rich Riewer, Bob Gregg and Jeff Noren.



### THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS



Bank Forward - Insure Forward  
 Bemidji Collision Center  
 Brady, Martz & Assoc.  
 Choice Therapy, PA  
 Countryside Restaurant  
 Giovanni's Pizza  
 Irby Utilities  
 Jake Bluhm Insurance Agency  
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 Liquor Lodge

Marco  
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 National Information Systems  
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Paul Bunyan Communications  
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 Reed & Reed Well Drilling  
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 Riverwood Bank  
 Sathre Title, Inc.  
 Sanford Health Bemidji  
 Security Bank USA  
 Your QFM

# Cold Weather Disconnect Rule

## 216B.097 COLD WEATHER RULE; COOPERATIVE OR MUNICIPAL UTILITY

**Subd. 1. Application; notice to residential customer.** (a) A municipal utility or a cooperative electric association must not disconnect and must reconnect the utility service of a residential customer during the period between October 15 and April 15 if the disconnection affects the primary heat source for the residential unit and all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The household income of the customer is at or below 50% of the state median household income. A municipal utility or cooperative electric association utility may (i) verify income on forms it provides or (ii) obtain verification of income from the local energy assistance provider. A customer is deemed to meet the income requirements of this clause if the customer receives any form of public assistance, including energy assistance that uses an income eligibility threshold set at or below 50% of the state median household income.

(2) A customer enters into and makes reasonably timely payments under a payment agreement that considers the financial resources of the household.

(3) A customer receives referrals to energy assistance, weatherization, conservation, or other programs likely to reduce the customer's energy bills.

(b) A municipal utility or a cooperative electric association must, between August 15 and October 15 each year, notify all residential customers of the provisions of this section.

**Subd. 2. Notice to residential customer facing disconnection.** Before disconnecting service to a residential customer during the period between October 15 and April 15, a municipal utility or cooperative electric association must provide the following information to a customer:

(1) a notice of proposed disconnection;

(2) a statement explaining the customer's rights and responsibilities;

(3) a list of local energy assistance providers;

(4) forms on which to declare inability to pay; and

(5) a statement explaining available time payment plans and other opportunities to secure continued utility service.

**Subd. 3. Restrictions if disconnection necessary.** (a) If a residential customer must be involuntarily disconnected between October 15 and April 15 for failure to comply with subdivision 1, the disconnection must not occur:

(1) on a Friday, unless the customer declines to enter into a payment agreement offered that day in person or via personal contact by telephone by a municipal utility or cooperative electric association;

(2) on a weekend, holiday, or the day before a holiday;

(3) when utility offices are closed; or

(4) after the close of business on a day when disconnection is permitted, unless a field representative of a municipal utility or cooperative electric association who is authorized to enter into a payment agreement, accept payment, and continue service, offers a payment agreement to the customer.

Further, the disconnection must not occur until at least 20 days after the notice required in subdivision 2 has been mailed to the customer or 15 days after the notice has been personally delivered to the customer.

(b) If a customer does not respond to a disconnection notice, the customer must not be disconnected until the utility investigates whether the residential unit is actually occupied. If the unit is found to be occupied, the utility must immediately inform the occupant of the provisions of this section. If the unit is unoccupied, the utility must give seven days' written notice of the proposed disconnection to the local energy assistance provider before making a disconnection.

(c) If, prior to disconnection, a customer appeals a notice of involuntary disconnection, as provided by the utility's established appeal procedure, the utility must not disconnect until the appeal is resolved.

**Subd. 4. Application to service limiters.** For the purposes of this section, "disconnection" includes a service or load limiter or any device that limits or interrupts electric service in any way.



## Need help paying your electric bill?

*The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) helps pay for home heating costs and furnace repairs for income-qualified households. We urge you to contact them immediately to avoid disconnection if you feel you are eligible for aid. (Eligibility is based on energy costs, household size and the three most recent months of income.)*

*Are you a senior living on a fixed income or suffering from a temporary financial shortfall? Then the following agencies may be able to assist you with your electric bill.*

### Bi-CAP in Bemidji

6603 Bemidji Ave N, Bemidji, MN 56601  
218-751-4631

### Bi-CAP in Walker

8245 Industrial Park Rd NW,  
Walker, MN 56484  
218-547-3438

### KOOTASCA

201 4<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Suite 130,  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744  
218-999-0824

### Leech Lake

115 6<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633  
218-335-3783

### MAHUBE-OTWA

120 North Central Ave,  
Park Rapids, MN 56470  
218-732-7204

### Red Lake

15525 Mendota Ave, Redby, MN 56670  
218-679-3350

**EAP services may include:** payment of energy bills, help with utility disconnections or fuel deliveries, repair or replacement of homeowner's broken heating systems, energy efficiency and more.

### 2021 Maximum EAP Income Guidelines

Household Size	3-month Maximum	Household Size	3-month Maximum
1	\$7,066	5	\$15,763
2	\$9,240	6	\$17,937
3	\$11,415	7	\$18,345
4	\$13,589	8	\$18,753

Visit <https://mn.gov/commerce/consumers/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance/> for more EAP income guidelines and program information.

## ATTENTION MILITARY SERVICE PERSONNEL

**325E.028 UTILITY PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR MILITARY SERVICE PERSONNEL.** The Minnesota Legislature passed a law concerning disconnection, payment arrangements and appeals for electric service of military personnel who are issued order into active duty, deployment or have a permanent change in duty station. Contact our office for more information.

# CLASSIFIEDS

## Classified ads rules

- Ads are due by the first of the month prior to publication of the next issue. Example:
  - o Ads submitted by October 1 will be published in the November issue.
  - o Ads submitted between October 2 and November 1 will be published in the December issue.
- Ads may be submitted via our website at [www.beltramelectric.com](http://www.beltramelectric.com) (preferred).
- Include your name and Beltrami Electric account number on all submissions.
- All ads must be **50 words or fewer** and typed or printed clearly.
- Members may only submit one for sale and one wanted or free ad per issue.
- No real estate, rental, personal or commercial ads will be accepted.
- Ads are published at no charge as space permits on a first-received, first-printed basis, **with no guarantee your ad will appear.**
- Ads are only allowed to be repeated for **three consecutive months** and must be resubmitted each month.
- Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad.
- All telephone numbers are presumed to have a 218 area code unless otherwise noted.
- Mail ads to: Beltrami Electric Cooperative, P.O. BOX 488, Bemidji, MN 56619.

## For Sale:

Wood stove, Vermont Castings "Defiant Encore" 1991 model #2140. Purchased in 1992 but never set up, never used, "out-of-the-box" immaculate condition. Sand color. Includes spark screen, black interior stovepipe, original owner's guide and receipt. Selling for \$650 (purchase price was \$1,950). 243-3120.

King Kutter yellow flip-over ATV Disc. Sells new for \$929.99. Works great with ATV for constructing food plots or working up small gardens. Excellent condition. Asking \$500/obo. Call 760-8266.

NEW IN BOX with original papers, Glock model 36 compact, 45 ACP pistol, with 2 6rd mags, \$550. Need copy of DL. 444-2958.

2011 ES 175 Epiphone guitar like new, with case, asking \$695. Call 444-2958 mornings.

Craftsmans 18-hp 22-inch wide snow thrower. Electric start. Annual maintenance, 9 yrs old. \$100. Pool table, \$200. Call 444-7256. Leave message.

16" Solatube \$250. 2-16" D Tubes \$40 ea. Never used. Been in box since '97, so if you like how made originally, here's your chance. Boxes worn, but tubes new. New over \$450 for lot. 701-775-8718.

Genuine GMC Tonneau cover, fits short box, exc. cond. \$200. 3 Lund boat seats, need new upholstery, \$50/obo. Multi-game table, exc. cond. Includes, pool, air hockey and ping pong. \$200. 556-4041.

Old wood cook stove, \$100. Berge wood stove - the unsulated heavy barrel type - old but not used much \$50. Cash only. Call for further information. Leave message if you don't get an answer. 586-2616.

2010 Hyundai Santa Fe, black, grey interior, 105K, remote start, clean, regular-size spare tire, new interstate battery, \$7,400/obo. Late 1800's Chipendale bedroom set, marbled walnut, marble tops, original ceramic inside tables, 9 foot. Armoire with mirror, hand carved and signed, \$15,000/ obo. 244-2410.

ABU heavy-duty 16-ft tandem axles with ramp. \$1,200. Rainbow trailer with ramp and spare tire, excellent 4-wheeler and snowmobile trailer. \$800. Both in great condition. 586-2839.

1997 Chevy suburban 4x4, 137,000 miles, new tires and runs good \$2,300. 651-353-5468.

2001 Chevrolet 1500 HD and LT. 219,000 miles. Original owner, no accidents, good running condition. \$6,500 asking price. 952-388-8584.

4 Firestone Winter Force snow tires. 205/70R15 good tread, \$175. 4 Mazda alloy rims 17X 6.5. \$350. 766-2513.

Insulated drapes from Anderson Fabrics, ivory colored, pleated with hooks: (2) 86" W x 84" L, (2) 72" W x 84" L, (2) 36" W x 84" L. No stains or tears, very clean, \$100 for all or best offer, call evenings. 751-5959.

Double air mattress bed with metal frame and foam pad. Has coil mattress foundation under blow up mattress. Includes electric blow up pump. \$150. Table/desk - 6'x30" table desk with 2 drawers. All steel. Government-issue work/desk/table. \$50. 547-3947.

Wheeled fish house, 4 holes, sleeps 2, cook stove, propane heat, 12-volt electric system, \$1,800. 407-5827.

1958 Ford tractor, 861-D, very good condition, \$3,800. 243-2497.

Maple dining room table with 6 chairs and 2 leaves and matching china cabinet. \$200/obo. 444-3283.

John Deere 410 backhoe, \$6,500. 835-6434.

4-bottle wine rack, \$20. Bathroom wall rack for magazines/toilet paper, \$20. Computer tables: metal, \$15, wood, \$25. Metal file cabinets, 4 drawer, \$40, 2-drawer, \$20. Upright electric freezer, \$100. Gun and bow cases, lots of hunting and fishing clothing, camo, orange, some white for snow goose. 586-2884.

Homemade quilts: 4-5-6-inch Block, Crazy, Star quilts. Twin, \$35; Full, \$40, Queen, \$55, King, \$60. Sewing machines, \$15 each. 243-2702.

Supplemental wood-burning furnace. ADD A FURNACE by Monarch. Wiring for hook-up in place. 751-6788.

## Wanted:

Pet sitting in your house or mine. 766-6510 leave message.

Fishing boat 16' or 17' long, call or text Luke at 218-556-0553.

Recumbent exercise bike, M8 magnetic resistance or higher. 835-7484.

Will clean home, office, rental or cabin. Available for house sitting or pet sitting. Bemidji and Walker area. If interested, please call Kim at 320-248-5795.

Looking for a 15 hp or less boat motor that runs. Text or call to contact me. 320-766-0153.

Space to rent for a small custom cabinet shop. Approximately 1,000 sq feet. Needs to have concrete floor, electricity, and heat. Blackduck area, or 10-mile radius. 612-810-9461.

Training wheels for 12" child's bike. 766-1289.

Do you need that old chair caned? Call Nate 444-8689.

4x4 car, under 100,000 miles, nice condition inside/out, please no major problems. 751-6210.

Parts: Stihl FS AV Big Brush saw (mine is 1983). Any year? 335-6778.

## Free:

Golf shoes: men's sizes 9-9 1/2, women's sizes, 6 1/2-7. 586-2884.

Ping pong table with net, paddles and balls. 444-3283.

## 2020 Touchstone Energy® Community Award

Do you know an organization that has made outstanding contributions to our local community?

Each year, Beltrami Electric celebrates volunteerism and community service with the Touchstone Energy® Community Award, which recognizes businesses, nonprofits and community groups that have shown a strong commitment to the community. One winning organization will receive a \$500 cash prize and will compete with winners from other electric cooperatives for statewide recognition and an additional \$1,000 cash prize.

Any civic organization or nonprofit in our service area is eligible to compete for the award, which recognizes outstanding contributions to our local communities. A complete list of past winners may be found at [www.beltramelectric.com](http://www.beltramelectric.com).

Organizations are eligible to apply for the award themselves, or community members may apply on behalf of a deserving organization. Applications for the award are now being accepted, and are available at [www.beltramelectric.com](http://www.beltramelectric.com) and can be found under My Cooperative/Community or by contacting Angela Lyseeng at 218-444-3689. Completed applications must be received

at our office by **Friday, Oct. 30, 2020** to be considered.



Touchstone Energy®

**UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation**  
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18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner:  
**Angela Lyseeng Marketing Communications Specialist 04/0200**

# ELECTRIC HEATING SALES TAX EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE

**Please complete and return to:**  
 Beltrami Electric Cooperative Inc.  
 PO Box 488  
 Bemidji, MN 56619-0488

This is to certify that the main source of heat for my home (more than 50%) is furnished by **permanently** installed electric heating equipment (not portable) and I, therefore, am eligible for the electric heating sales tax exemption as provided by Minnesota State Tax Fact Sheet 157. This exemption is for the billing months of November through April only. *\*Exemption forms should be resubmitted every 3-4 years. Please notify us if you change from electric heat to a different primary heating source.*

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Location # \_\_\_\_\_

Meter # \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Tax ID#/FEIN/Driver's License# or State Issued ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_ Member Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Electricity sold for residential use is not taxable for the billing months of November through April when sold to metered members who use electric heat as their primary source of residential heat. If more than one type of heat is used, electricity is not taxable if electric is the primary source of heat. Primary source of residential heat is the source that supplied more heat than any other source for the largest period of time during the heating season. Members with an off-peak meter are only exempted sales tax on the electricity that is recorded on the off-peak meter.

Some buildings have both residential quarters and commercial operations. If there is one meter for the entire building, the exemption applies if more than 50% of the square footage of the building is

residential. Complete and submit the following form only if you are eligible for the exemption. If you have more than one account, an exemption form must be filed with each location.

The State of Minnesota recommends the exemption forms should be updated and resubmitted every 3 to 4 years to be eligible for the exemption. Members who receive a tax exemption when electric heat is not their primary source of heat are in violation of the sales tax law.

Commercial accounts must use an ST3 form, which is available on our website.

\*Please note that this form can also be submitted online at [www.beltramielectric.com/electric-heating-sales-tax-exemption-certificate](http://www.beltramielectric.com/electric-heating-sales-tax-exemption-certificate).



**Take notice** of posted warning signs and keep clear of electrical equipment.



**Do not** shoot at or near power lines or insulators.



**Know** where power lines and equipment are located on the land where you hunt.



**Be especially careful** in wooded areas where power lines may not be as visible.



**Do not** place deer stands on utility poles or climb poles. Energized lines and equipment can conduct electricity to anyone who comes in contact with them, causing shock or electrocution.




**Do not** place decoys on power lines or other utility equipment. Any non-electrical equipment attached to a pole can pose an obstruction and serious hazards to our line crews.





## Beltrami Electric Cooperative Inc.

® Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

4111 Technology DR NW  
PO Box 488  
Bemidji, MN 56619-0488  
218-444-2540 • 800-955-6083  
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## Standby generators

It's never convenient to experience a power outage, but we know that when weather and accidents happen, they can interrupt power for minutes, hours or even days. Make sure your home or business is protected by a reliable backup power solution!

Beltrami Electric Cooperative offers a turn-key sale and installation of a fully automatic Briggs & Stratton standby generator system.



An automatic generator can operate your sump pump, furnace

fan, lights, appliances and more during a power outage. Standby generators are permanently installed and connected to your home or business' natural gas line or liquid propane fuel source, along with the applicable transfer switch to support quick power generation. We also offer an optional annual maintenance program to help ensure years of dependability.

Contact our energy services department today at **218-444-3622** for details and a price quote.



## Safely connect your portable generator to your home with



When you have lost power, a portable generator can temporarily provide needed electricity. However, it may also present serious safety hazards if not used properly.

**NEVER plug a portable generator directly into your home.** This can cause electricity to feed back through your home onto the utility lines. This “backfeed” can be deadly for lineworkers or anyone near downed power lines.

A GenerLink UL-listed transfer switch allows you to SAFELY connect a generator to your home and allows you the flexibility and control to select what you want to run using your home's energy circuit panel.

Contact our energy services department at **(218) 444-3622** for pricing and information on installation.