

NORTHERN

L I G H T S

February 2020

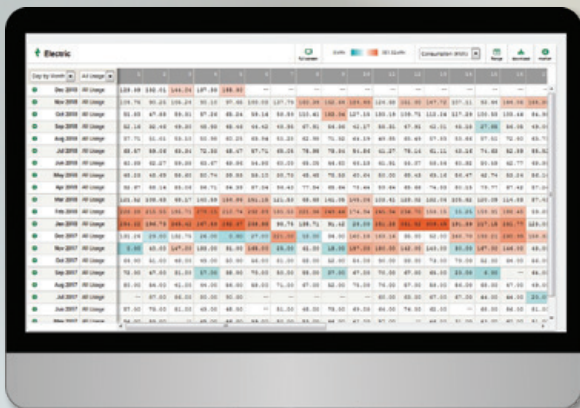


Closer look at mymeter

MyMeter is a free program for Beltrami Electric Cooperative members to use to view hourly, daily or monthly energy usage from the convenience of your home computer, tablet or smartphone. You can use it to better manage your energy usage and to receive email or text notifications regarding unusual energy use.

Members can set and track energy conservation goals. For example, you could set a higher usage alert, which could indicate that somehow power is being used although you thought you had everything turned off. Or you could set up an alert if your usage goes below a certain threshold, which could indicate that something in your home is not working. (*MyMeter will NOT alert you if your power goes off.*)

- **Data and alerts:** Stay informed no matter where you are. Alerts and meter data are accessible across different devices to keep you up-to-date even when you're out of town.
- **Track and compare your usage:** Track your hourly, daily or monthly usage against weather and temperature and see how you compare to your own usage from previous years.
- **Energy challenges:** Set energy-saving goals and track your progress over time.



Get started with MyMeter today!

1. Visit mymeter.beltramielectric.com. (*Have a copy of your electric bill with you.*)
2. In the upper right corner, click on "Create an Account."
3. Enter the name on your account, your account number, email address and select a password and secret question.
4. Click on "Create Account" and you're ready to go!
5. Want to access MyMeter on your mobile device? Download the free app from your app store.

Need assistance or have questions? Contact member services at 444-2540 or 800-955-6083 and we will be happy to assist you.

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Northern Lights (USPS 016488), Vol. 67, No. 2

Northern Lights is published monthly by Beltrami Electric Cooperative Inc., 4111 Technology Drive N.W., Bemidji, Minnesota 56619-0488. Subscription rate \$5. Periodicals postage paid at Bemidji, MN 56601.

Postmaster: Please send address corrections to Beltrami Electric Cooperative Inc., P.O. Box 488, Bemidji, Minnesota 56619-0488.

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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 fax or email as indicated.

Gopher State One Call

1-800-252-1166 or 811

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.

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President signs Spending Bill that includes electric co-op priorities

Jared Echternach, *President and CEO*

Several electric cooperative priorities were achieved with the passage of the 2020 Spending Bill signed into law by President Trump on Dec. 20. The Spending Bill included four provisions electric cooperatives had been working on, including:

The RURAL Act

Protects electric co-ops' tax-exempt status when they receive federal and state grants for disaster relief, broadband deployment and economic development. This was an



oversight of the 2017 Tax Reform that inadvertently classified funds received from these sources as nonmember revenue, thus threatening electric cooperatives' tax exempt status if they receive more than 15% of their revenue from nonmember sources.

The SECURE Act

Will aggregate save co-ops in NRECA's Retirement Security Plan more than \$30 million per year in Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation insurance premiums. This premium reduction will help reduce the cost pressure on participating cooperatives.

Cadillac tax repeal

Eliminates the 40% Cadillac Tax on employer health plans and will help protect health care benefits for co-op employees. Taxing any part of co-op employees' health care benefits would

result in less comprehensive health coverage for families, and at a higher cost for many.

Parking lot tax repeal

Eliminates the tax law provision that treated parking lots at tax-exempt businesses and organizations as employer-paid qualified transportation and parking benefits covered under a corporate tax on unrelated taxable business income. In addition to the tax, compliance costs were a burden for co-ops.

None of these provisions would have become reality without the hard work of electric cooperatives advocating on behalf of their members. I'd like to thank Sen. Tina Smith, Congressmen Peterson, Stauber, Hagedorn, Phillips and Congresswomen Craig and McCollum for supporting the bill.



If you have helped advocate for any of the above legislation, I thank you for supporting your cooperative. As I've said before, messages directly from our members are much more influential than those from lobbyists in St. Paul or Washington, D.C. Your voice truly matters. We will continue to work hard to advocate on your behalf on issues affecting your cooperative.

Operation Round Up[®] helps local programs

The Beltrami Electric Cooperative Trust Board for Operation Round Up[®] met in January to review applications, which it received requesting funding for various local programs. The board awarded grants to 16 local programs totaling \$21,390.06.

Many local programs and organizations benefit from Operation Round Up, a charitable program designed to give members a means of working together to use our small change to make a big impact in our local communities. Together we are doing some wonderful things for our friends and neighbors.

The average amount a member will pay is \$0.50 a month or \$6 a year, while the maximum annual contribution possible is \$11.88 per year. Contributions to Operation Round Up are tax deductible and will be shown on your billing statement. Participation is voluntary and members may opt out at any time by contacting our office. Members can also make an additional contribution and may contact our office to do so.



Seated: April Collman, *Adult Day Services*, Wendy Greenberg, *Red Lake Nation College*, Annie Butler Ricks, *United Way of Bemidji Area*, Mary Morton, *Northern Artist Association*, Stephanie Rosenbaum, *Bemidji Symphony Orchestra*.

Standing front row: Sharon Lembke, *Operation Round Up[®] board president*, Shelly Bartholomaus, *Level Ground*, Carol Lauderbaugh, *The Salvation Army*, Marten Schrage, *Voyageur's Area Council*, Arianne Pyke, Anna Wallin, Shanna Reiners, *Aurora Waasakone Community of Learners*, Sue Rosselet, *Bemidji Symphony Orchestra*.

Standing back row: Jim Fretheim, *Bemidji Community Food Shelf*, Jonathon Stone, *Good Samaritan Society-Blackduck*, Joyce and Kevin Day, *Level Ground*, Scott Buchan, *Camp Oak Hills*, Chris Richardson, *Bemidji Parks & Recreation*, Vicki Stenerson, Gary Rozman, *Bemidji Community Theater*, Stu Rosselet, *Bemidji Community Theater*, Anthony Hebert, *North Country Food Bank*.

The following organizations were awarded Operation Round Up grants in January:

ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM	GRANT
Adult Day Services, Inc.	Facility preservation	\$ 2,000
Aurora Waasakone Community of Learners	Unplugged classroom	\$ 2,000
Bemidji Community Food Shelf	Roof repair	\$ 2,000
Bemidji Community Theater	Children's theater production	\$ 800
Bemidji Parks & Recreation	Family snowshoeing	\$890.46
Bemidji Symphony Orchestra	Complimentary tickets – Boys & Girls Club families	\$ 1,000
Blackduck Area Senior Center	Printer for newsletter	\$ 230
Camp Oak Hills	Winter sports equipment	\$ 1,500
Good Samaritan Society-Blackduck	Annual GSS Easter Egg Hunt	\$ 1,000
Level Ground	Electrical wiring work for "The Door," temp. emergency housing	\$ 3,706
North Country Food Bank	Nutritious produce for people in need	\$ 1,000
Northern Artist Association	Warm Your Heart With A Little Art	\$ 500
Red Lake Nation College	Field guides for Environmental Science and Biology classes	\$607.60
The Salvation Army	HeatShare	\$ 1,000
United Way of Bemidji Area	BSU/Northwest Technical College food pantry	\$ 1,500
Voyageur's Area Council	Support for Boy Scouts of America program	\$ 1,656

Small change makes a **BIG DIFFERENCE!**



Unclaimed capital credits list

- ABBOTT, Jane and Wes, Bemidji, Minn.
ACOMB, Craig, Shevlin, Minn.
ALLEN, Ill, James F., Dodd City, Texas
ALLEN, David P., Columbia Hts, Minn.
ALSAKER, Jordan C., Blackduck, Minn.
ANDERSON ESTATE, Eilene C., C/O Neil Claassen, New Richmond, Wis.
ANDERSON, Debra, Benedict, Minn.
ANDERSON, Lyle, I., Sartell, Minn.
ANDERSON, Joseph M. and Michelle L., Bemidji, Minn.
ANDERSON, Robert C., Redby, Minn.
ANDERSON-WEIR, Edward and Terry, Bemidji, Minn.
ANDRE, Todd S. and Denise M., Otsego, Minn.
ANNETTE, Danielle J., Detroit Lakes, Minn.
AUGINASH, Jana S., Bemidji, Minn.
AUSTIN, Randy L. and Bonita S., Brainerd, Minn.
AVERY, Shannon K., Bemidji, Minn.
BABB, K. F., Rutledge, Tenn.
BAIRD, Jody L. and Matt Duos, Cass Lake, Minn.
BAIRD, Marty A. and Nancy, Intl Falls, Minn.
BANG, Carolyn J., Elk River, Minn.
BARRETT, Leighchelle M., Red Lake, Minn.
BARRON Jr., Filevritto, Redby, Minn.
BARTLETT, Steven T., Colfax, Iowa
BAUMANN, Holly S., Bemidji, Minn.
BEAULIEU, Cleona and Vincent G. Cobenais, Red Lake, Minn.
BEAULIEU, Ivy, Red Lake, Minn.
BEAULIEU, Laurine M., Cass Lake, Minn.
BECHTOLD, Laneta, Blackduck, Minn.
BECKER, Jessica M., Bemidji, Minn.
BEDEAU, Kenneth J., Goodrich, N.D.
BEGAY, Josie C., Bemidji, Minn.
BELCHER, Jan M., Plummer, Minn.
BELL, Michael D. and Steven C. Hildre, Turtle River, Minn.
BELLAMY, Jean, Walker, Minn.
BELLMORE, Paul J., Tenstrike, Minn.
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BENSON, Mark, Lewiston, Idaho
BENZ, Arthur E., Hibbing, Minn.
BERG, Darla, Bemidji, Minn.
BERGER, Regie and Lynda Hauger, Fargo, N.D.
BERGLUND, Steven L., Hallandale Beach, Fla.
BERGQUIST, Glen J. and Tamara L., Blackduck, Minn.
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BLAKE, John H. and Elvera L., Golden, Mo.
BLAUERT, Tony, Mankato, Minn.
BLISH, James G. and Shirley Alderson, Post Falls, Idaho
BLOOM, Devon T. and Jane E., Blackduck, Minn.
BOGUCKI, Clint and Ashley, Blackduck, Minn.
BOIE, Dale R., Paynesville, Minn.
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BOWMAN ESTATE, Melinda K., Bemidji, Minn.
BOWMAN, Michael S., Bemidji, Minn.
BOYER, Leigh A., Bemidji, Minn.
BRUGUIER, Betsy, Minneapolis, Minn.
BRUNSON, Steven L. and Edith, Mankato, Minn.
BUEGLER, Walter W. and Olivia A., Hibbing, Minn.
BURNSIDE, Aaron, Solway, Minn.
BURTON, Patricia A., Springfield, Mo.
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ROCK, Eugene B., Cass Lake, Minn.
RUSCO, Brenda L., Bemidji, Minn.
RUTKA, Robert T. and Carole L., Edina, Minn.
RYAN, Jean I., Marion, N.C.
SAARELA, Bill, Sebeka, Minn.
SCARBOROUGH, William, Bemidji, Minn.
SCHLAICH, Rory, Hereford, Ore.
SCHMELKA, Daniel R., Grand Forks, N.D.
SCHNEIDER, Dean R. and Melanie R., Minot, N.D.
SCHRADER, Charles H., Newton, Iowa
SCHROEDER, Kim A., Wadena, Minn.
SCROTT, Diane L., Prescott Valley, Ariz.
SERFLING, Lonnie D., Breezy Point, Minn.
SHACKELFORD, Joann F., Fort Collins, Colo.
SHAUGOBAY, Wanda M., Duluth, Minn.
SHIFLETT, Tommy L., Beaumont, Texas
SIMON, Mary E., Bemidji, Minn.
SKERSICK, Douglas P., Bemidji, Minn.
SKOGEN, Ellen J., Bemidji, Minn.
SKYBERG, Karyn L., East Grand Forks, Minn.
SLACK, Dennis R. and Tracey M, Quinn, Bemidji, Minn.
SLOUGH, Cara L., Park Rapids, Minn.
SMITH, David A. and Ruth E. Spilde, Bemidji, Minn.
SMITH, Debra J., Duluth, Minn.
SMITH, Dustin G., Bemidji, Minn.
SMITH, Fred and Jody, Detroit Lakes, Minn.
SMITH, Margaret M., Cass Lake, Minn.
SMITH, Vicky L., Redby, Minn.
SMOCK, Suzan M. and Jesse Monson, Missoula, Mont.
SPEARS, Rebecca J., Bemidji, Minn.
SPERLING, Olive, Bemidji, Minn.
SPRONG, Arnold, Michigan City, Ind.
STANGEL, Cami A., New Brighton, Minn.
STAPLES Sr., Dennis J., Cass Lake, Minn.
STAUM, Michael and Ann Aronson, Minneapolis, Minn.
STAVE, Verna M., Northwood, N.D.
STENROS, Peter C., Troy, Mont.
STEPANIAK, Daniel, Blackduck, Minn.
STERN, Boyd, Hibbing, Minn.
STILLDAY, Brian D., Cloquet, Minn.
STODOLA, William J. and Rebecca M., Woodbury, Minn.
STONE, Paulette, Cass Lake, Minn.
STOWE, Phyllis R. and Todd L., Belton, Texas
STROM, Gerald E. and Nancy E., Goodland, Minn.
STRONG, Doris, Blackduck, Minn.
SUMNER Jr., John F., Red Lake, Minn.
SWANSON, Arlo D. and Sonja, Mankato, Minn.
SWENSON, Mike, Bemidji, Minn.
TAKEN ALIVE, Crystal, St. Paul, Minn.
TANNER, Nicole L. and William T., Blackduck, Minn.
TATZMANN, Manfred, Minneapolis, Minn.
TAYLOR Jr., George M. and Mindy J., Bemidji, Minn.
TAYLOR, Nick, Intl Falls, Minn.
TEJOHN, Kevin W., Cass Lake, Minn.
THIELKE, Ray A., Crookston, Minn.
THOMAS, Jonathan L., Fosston, Minn.
THUL, Andrew C., Bemidji, Minn.
THUNDER, Llewellyn C., Redby, Minn.
THUNE, Donald, St. Hilaire, Minn.
TIBBETTS, Molly K., Cass Lake, Minn.
TIEMEYER, David J. and Renee M. Roquette, Mesa, Ariz.
TJEPKES, Craig A. and Rachel, Bemidji, Minn.
TONEC, Beverly J., Cass Lake, Minn.
TORCELLINI, Diane, Poway, Calif.
TRUXTON, John C. and Debra K., Holiday, Fla.
VANDENHANDLE, Wayne and Shirley, Reno, Nev.
VANDENHOEK, Robert J. and Shirley A., Hopkins, Minn.
VANNETT, Vernon H., Cass Lake, Minn.
VEAZEY, Cory S., Blackduck, Minn.
VELIKOFF, Sharon D., Bemidji, Minn.
VETSCH, Don E. and Julie L., Emerald, N.D.
VILLAGE MOTORS, C/O Charles Doughty, Walker, Minn.
WAHL, Brad R., Bemidji, Minn.
WANG, Victoria M., Laporte, Minn.
WARD, Paul M., Bemidji, Minn.
WARD, Roger J., Bemidji, Minn.
WATSON, Richard G. and Claudette K., Barnum, Minn.
WEBBER, Daniel E. and Sarah B., St. Paul, Minn.
WELK, Shannon H. and Derick J., Minot, N.D.
WELTER, Mike and Stacy, Bemidji, Minn.
WHITEFEATHER, Michael W., Redby, Minn.
WICKLUND, John, Fergus Falls, Minn.
WIESE, Elizabeth M., Bemidji, Minn.
WIGAND, A. A., Crookston, Minn.
WILDWOOD, Talon C., Red Lake, Minn.
WILKINSON, John R. and Rebecca A., Bemidji, Minn.
WILLIAMS, Carter M., Duluth, Minn.
WILSON, Sylvia M., Ponemah, Minn.
WILTON, Leanna S., Milan, Mich.
WIND, Darlene, Albuquerque, N.M.
WIND, Gerald O., Warroad, Minn.
WINKLER, Kali J., Dilworth, Minn.
WINTER, Gregg, Laporte, Minn.
WOODLAND, Jill C., Laporte, Minn.
YANEZ, Juanita, Bemidji, Minn.
YATES, Brent T., Bemidji, Minn.
Young, Edward D., Oregon, Ill.
ZEIHER, Robert C., Blackduck, Minn.

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads rules

- Ads are due by the first of the month prior to publication of the next issue. Example:
 - Ads submitted by Feb. 1 will be published in the March issue.
 - Ads submitted between Feb. 2 and March 1 will be published in the April issue.
- Ads may be submitted via our website at 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:

Ruger Mark II Target 22 LR 5½ in. bull barrel, excellent condition. Set price locked in at \$375. Call Bill at 444-9929.

Find out why people who raise and process beef put Jersey meat in their own freezers. Two animals to be processed 1/21. Half or whole, small enough for smaller families. You pay processing, \$2.50/lb, 1 pay processing, \$3.50/lb hanging weight. Deposit required. Leave message, Pat 333-8916.

Bostitch framing nailer, Bostitch roofing nailer w/some nails, \$75 each. 239-0742 or 835-7484.

8x16 tandem axle flatbed trailer with T and G treated deck, lights, stake pockets, 2-5/16 ball hitch. Not licensed. \$595/obo. Cash only. 586-2875.

1966 Chevrolet Impala SS convertible, rust free, straight car, excellent chrome, clear title, all numbers match. An excellent car to restore. Call for pictures. \$8,000 firm. 760-1095.

2000 Ford F550 7.3 diesel, manual transmission. 14' steel bed and hoist. \$3,900. 8' x 16' steel bed and backboard with hoist, hydraulic pump and controls. \$2,850. Call Carl at 547-1671.

Two older walk-behind snowblowers: John Deere and Snapper, \$225-choice. Both in good working condition. 556-6736.

45 ACP brass for sale, \$60 per 1,000.

10mm brass, \$70 per 1,000. Range brass, will need to be cleaned. 308 and 223 brass also available. Call Don 507-319-1287, leave a message.

Diamond Razor Edge compound bow with accessories, \$350. Pelican Colorado 15-ft poly canoe, \$300. Tri-Tronics dog training collar, \$100. Armstrong flute, \$200. Black Itech hockey bag, \$50. Horse statues and plates, call for more info. 759-0186.

Numerous children's books, including "Wimpy Kid." 7-gallon fish tank w/cover, like new, \$16. Horse cart, asking \$400. 243-3112.

Memory foam queen-size camper mattress topper quilted top, new, \$35. King-size goose feather mattress/comforter, \$75 (paid over \$300). Taste of Home nonstick cookware, like new, 10 pieces, \$45. 60 T-shirts all new, 45 adult sizes, colors, child sizes sm., med., lg. Would like to sell ALL, \$120. 547-1744.

Eight Avon Christmas plates, four Albee plates. \$12 each/obo. 766-6796.

Wanted:

Coleman Powermate Maxa 4200 ER generator for parts. 751-5763, evenings, if no answer leave message.

Propane tank – 250 gallons or more tank size, in good working order. Call 333-0724.

Left-handed rifle. Call 218-340-9010.

Decent used crossbow. 556-6736.

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Beltrami Electric's board of directors conducted its regular monthly meeting Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2019. A quorum of directors was present.

The following reports were given:

- Bud Branham, NRECA director of safety and loss prevention, discussed the Commitment to Zero Initiative.
- President and CEO Echternach gave his monthly report, including 2020 membership to ACRE and REPAC and the 2020 budget.
- Revisions to BEC Policy #103 were discussed.
- President and CEO Echternach presented the nonunion compensation and benefits plan and the tentative Union Agreement.
- President and CEO Echternach presented the 2020-2023 strategic plan and the 2020 budget.
- Sam Mason presented the 2020 marketing plan.
- Vice-Chair Lund appointed Jared Echternach as the NISC delegate.
- Vice-Chair Lund appointed Murl Nord as the CFC delegate with Charlie Parson as the alternate.
- Vice-Chair Lund appointed Jared Echternach as the NRTC delegate.
- The President and CEO and directors shared highlights of meetings attended on behalf of the cooperative and discussed cooperative opportunities and upcoming meetings and events.

The following actions were taken:

- Approved the consent agenda.
- Approved revisions to Policy #103.
- Approved the nonunion compensation and benefits plan.
- Approved the tentative Union Agreement.
- Approved the 2020-2023 strategic plan and the 2020 budget.
- Approved the 2020 marketing plan.

The next regular board meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2020.

Beltrami Electric Cooperative scholarships



Once again, it is time for high school seniors to apply for Beltrami Electric's college scholarships. Beltrami Electric Cooperative funds college scholarships with unclaimed capital credit dollars that, per Minnesota state law for unclaimed property, would otherwise be forfeited to the state.

As we all know, a college education can be expensive. Beltrami Electric and its board of directors are pleased to offer \$1,000 in

scholarship money to deserving students of BEC members attending seven area high schools to help with this ever-growing expense. To be eligible to be awarded scholarship money this spring, the parents and/or guardians of the students must be members of Beltrami Electric Cooperative.

If you are a high school senior who attends one of the schools listed below and are interested in applying for a scholarship from BEC, please contact your high school's designated guidance office or scholarship committee for additional information and applications. The scholarship selection process is handled through each school's designated career guidance offices or scholarship committees.

- ▶ Bemidji High School
- ▶ Cass Lake High School
- ▶ Laporte High School
- ▶ Walker-Hackensack-Akeley High School
- ▶ Blackduck High School
- ▶ Kelliher High School
- ▶ Red Lake High School

Beltrami Electric Cooperative At-Large Scholarship information

Beltrami Electric will award one \$1,000 **At-Large Scholarship** to a Beltrami Electric Cooperative member or dependent of a Beltrami Electric member who plans to enroll as a full-time student in their first year in an undergraduate course of study at an accredited two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school. The At-Large Scholarship program is for students who **do not attend one of the seven schools** listed under Beltrami Electric's High School Scholarship program. Applications are available on our website at www.beltramelectric.com, and must be received by April 1, 2020, for consideration.

We are looking for you!

Beltrami Electric is looking for **Michael D. Mustache** (Bemidji, Minn.) and **Zoe J. Ducheneaux** (Red Lake, Minn.). Please call **218-444-2540** if you have any information.

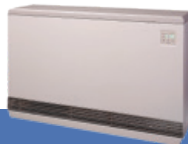




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www.beltramielctric.com

Up to
\$75/kW
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ITEM FOR SALE BY BID

Item is available for viewing at Beltrami Electric from Feb. 5 through Feb. 7 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Bids will be accepted during this time as well. Item sold "as-is."



Morbark Model 12 Blizzard chipper. 110 hp. Engine was rebuilt in 2011, and can handle 12" wood. **Minimum bid: \$5,000.** Cash only.

Thank you for your years of service!



The following employees were recognized for their years of service in 2019:

SEATED: Arlene Hogquist, 30 years; Rebecca Zaiser, 20 years.

STANDING: Dan Dow, 30 years; Jay Declusin, 20 years; William Haman, 20 years.



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

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

Kootasca

201 NW 4th St., Suite 130,
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
218-999-0800

Leech Lake

115 6th St., Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-3783

Mahube

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.

2020 EAP Income Guidelines

Household Size	3-month Maximum	Household Size	3-month Maximum
1	\$6,761	5	\$15,084
2	\$8,842	6	\$17,164
3	\$10,923	7	\$17,554
4	\$13,003	8	\$17,944

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



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
www.beltramielectric.com

Beltrami Electric Cooperative collects and delivers items for annual Mitten Tree

In December, Beltrami Electric Cooperative delivered donated mittens, gloves, hats and scarves to area children as part of its annual Mitten Tree campaign.

This season, nearly 700 items were collected and distributed to students enrolled in seven Head Start and Early Child Family Education programs throughout the cooperative's service area. The number of items the cooperative receives from employees, members and friends continues to be very generous.

As some of you might know, cooperatives around the globe adhere to the same seven Cooperative Principles that guide all of our decisions – from how we run the co-op, to how we engage with our local communities. Concern for community is the seventh principle and it is one that seems especially important. No matter how great or small the act, every time we give back, we strengthen our community.

Whether you dropped off your items or shipped them to us, we were so excited to see the items that were selected or made with love for our area children. By working together, we are able to make a big impact in our local communities, keeping children warm for yet another winter season.



Thank you to everyone who helped with a donation to the Mitten Tree this year!