



General Manager's Message: Our Annual Meeting

As a member of KEC, you have a voice in how your Cooperative is run. One way to make your voice heard is to attend our 80th Annual Meeting, scheduled for April 30, 2018, at Lake City Church, 6000 N. Ramsey Rd. in Coeur d'Alene. The meeting starts at 6 p.m. with doors opening at 5 p.m. for registration, voting and refreshments.



Doug Elliott

At the meeting, you may vote on candidates seeking election to the board of directors and on the ratification of five proposed amendments to KEC's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, which are being recommended by the Board of Directors and our corporate attorney. All members received a voting packet in the mail in March, which included details about the election. Videos of the board candidate speeches are also available at www.kec.com for members to view. If you didn't vote online or by mail by the April 13, 2018 deadline, you may still vote in person at the Annual Meeting. New this year: Member voting at the Annual Meeting will take place between 5-6 p.m. before the meeting begins, so please plan to arrive early if you would like to vote.

Votes will be tabulated at the Annual Meeting by our Credentials and Elections Committee. This committee ensures the election is handled in accordance with KEC's Bylaws. The results will be announced at the Annual Meeting and in our June newsletter. [1835725]

Each member household attending the Annual Meeting will have the opportunity to win many prizes, including a \$300 KEC energy credit to use toward your electric bill. Members must be present to win.

Also, all members attending the Annual Meeting in person will receive one \$20 meal certificate redeemable at local participating restaurants. I hope to see you at the Annual Meeting. Your participation counts and is important to us. Should you have any questions about the candidates or proposed amendments, please contact us at kec@kec.com or 208.765.1200.

Sincerely,

Doug Elliott, KEC General Manager



TRUST BOARD AWARDS OPERATION ROUND UP® GRANTS

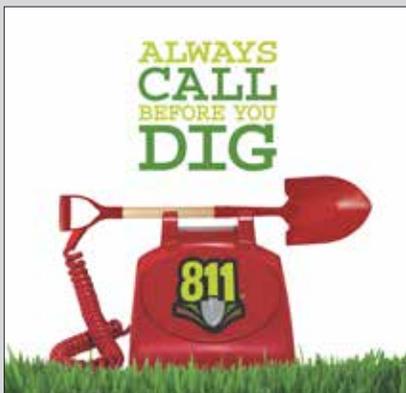
The Kootenai Electric Trust Board approved the first quarter disbursement of 2018 Operation Round Up® funds. The Trust Board received 14 grant requests and awarded more than \$12,000 to the following applicants:

- \$2,500 to the Post Falls Senior Center for the Meals on Wheels program and to purchase chairs.
- \$2,000 to Lakeland High School to initiate a new program to provide job training skills for students with disabilities.
- \$1,800 to Stories with Stewy, an interactive reading incentive program for local second graders.
- \$1,707 to the Ramsey Magnet School of Science to purchase 15 musical instruments.

- \$1,500 to the St. Luke's Jubilee Ministries Community Bike Project to provide reliable transportation for the needy.
- \$1,000 to the North Idaho College Foundation for Safety Fest of the Great Northwest, an annual safety conference.
- \$1,000 to Parents Reaching Out to Parents to help families who have a child with disabilities in times of emergencies.
- \$1,000 to the Village at Orchard Ridge to aid residents who cannot afford meals.

The next grant applications are due April 27, 2018. Applications are available at www.kec.com or the KEC office. Members who choose not to contribute to Operation

Round Up®, or who would like to begin contributing, may simply “opt-out” or “opt-in” on their bill or contact KEC by phone, letter or email. **Thank you to all the members who started rounding up their bills during our recent contest. We had two winners, one in Athol and one in Post Falls.**



KNOW WHAT'S BELOW—DIAL 811 BEFORE YOU DIG

Spring is an optimal time of year to dream up and achieve your landscaping masterpiece. If any of your spring projects require digging—such as planting trees or shrubs, or setting posts—remember to call 811 first. Underground utilities, such as buried gas, water and electric lines, can be a shovel thrust away from turning a landscaping project into a disaster. [1830589]

Play it safe by dialing 811 to find out where utility lines run on your property. Your call will be routed to a local “one call” center. Tell the operator where you’re planning to dig and what type of work you will be doing, and affected local

utilities will be notified. In a few days, a locator will arrive to designate the approximate location of any underground lines, pipes and cables. These areas will be marked with flags or paint so you’ll know what’s below. Then the safe digging can begin. Accidental contact with a line can cause serious injury and possibly death, disrupt service to an entire neighborhood and often results in fines and repair costs. Never assume the location or depth of underground utility lines. The 811 service is free, prevents the inconvenience of having utilities interrupted and can help you avoid serious injury. For more information visit www.call811.com.

Power Quality and Service Modification Reminders

What is Power Quality?

Power quality is the quality of the flow of electrical energy to electrical devices. Poor power quality causes electrical device malfunctioning, flickering lights, inconsistent operation or premature failures. Poor power quality can be caused by many things, including loose wiring, poor grounding, failing breakers, undersized wiring or the addition of equipment or appliances such as on-demand water heaters or heat pumps to a location without the appropriate transformer upgrades.

Service Modifications

When your KEC service was installed, your equipment was sized to meet your power needs at that time. We understand member needs change

over time and our equipment may need to be upgraded to ensure optimal power quality. Please notify KEC if you are going to make a significant upgrade, such as purchasing a new heat pump, adding computer servers or installing a water pump. This also includes updating your home's electrical service or converting a gas appliance to an electric appliance. By notifying us we can ensure your new electric equipment and our electric service are compatible so your power quality is the best it can be. It will also help you plan for any unexpected costs to upgrade your electric service. [1592156]

Members are encouraged to call KEC at 208.765.1200 if they experience any power quality issues or make any of the changes listed above. KEC will conduct an investigation at no charge.

[1786309]

TAKE OUR MEMBER SERVICE SURVEY

At KEC, our goal is to provide exceptional member service. We are currently evaluating extending the hours and days we offer member service in the office, over the phone and online and we'd like to get member feedback on this. Visit www.kec.com to take the online survey. Members who take the survey by April 30, 2018 will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 bill credit. [1820595]

KEC GOLF CLASSIC

Join us on Friday, June 22, for the 19th Annual KEC Golf Classic at the Coeur d'Alene Resort Golf Course. The tournament starts at 2 p.m. Proceeds from this year's event will benefit the Operation Round Up[®] Scholarship Program. If you're interested in playing golf, the registration cost includes green fees, a golf cart and drinks. The early-bird cost (before April 30) per team is \$700 and includes a banner sponsorship. Individuals can play for \$140 each, if they sign up and pay before April 30. For more information call 208.292.3270.

WIN A \$50 ENERGY CREDIT

Six KEC account numbers are hidden in this newsletter. If you find your number contact us at 208.765.1200 and receive a \$50 credit on your bill.

KEC BOARD MEETINGS

Members are welcome to attend monthly board meetings. Meeting dates vary—please call Constance Felten at 208.292.3211 for details.

KEC is an Equal Opportunity–Affirmative Action Employer

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

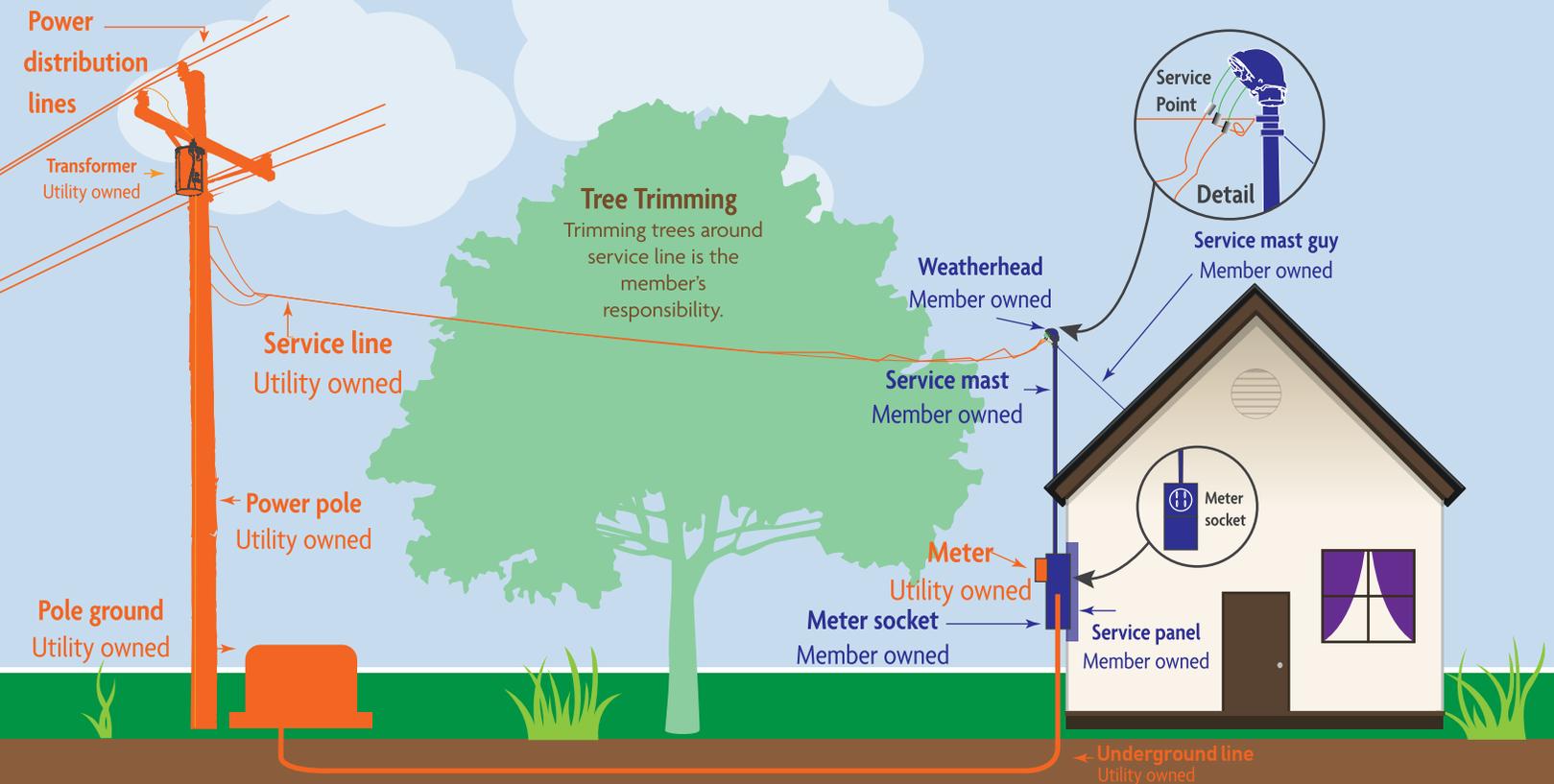
Make sure your refrigerator door seals are airtight for maximum energy efficiency. Test the seal by closing the door over a piece of paper (so that it's half in and half out). If you can easily pull the piece of paper out, your seal may need to be replaced or the latch may need to be adjusted.

Source: energy.gov



Who Owns What?

Kootenai Electric vs Member-Owned Electric Equipment



Knowing the safety precautions and legal responsibilities of your electric service is important for all KEC members. You may not be aware of what equipment is the homeowner's responsibility and what is KEC's responsibility. Electric meters are the property of KEC. Removing the meter with current flowing through it can lead to an electrical explosion. The person working with the meter could be injured or killed. If you're planning on doing electrical work, contact KEC and we will send certified personnel to your site. Under no circumstance should meters be removed or relocated—temporarily or permanently—by anyone other than authorized KEC employees.

For overhead service, KEC is responsible for the cable

that runs from the utility pole to your home. This wire is called a "service line." The service line connects to your house at the "service mast," a vertical pipe-like structure attached to the top of the box that houses your electric meter. The service mast and the box that holds the meter are the homeowner's property and responsibility. [1351922]

For underground service, KEC is responsible for the transformer, underground wire from the transformer to the meter, and the meter. If you have any questions about your electric service responsibilities, please call KEC at 208.765.1200. You can also view the Electric Service Handbook at www.kec.com.