

A MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER: DOUG ELLIOTT

2019 Annual Meeting & Election

For more than 80 years, we've been owned and governed by those we serve. KEC's Annual Meeting is a great way to stay informed about what's happen at your cooperative. Our 81st Annual Meeting is set for May 13, 2019, at Lake City Church in Coeur d'Alene. Registration begins at 5 p.m. and the meeting starts at 6 p.m. [1426315]



Each member household attending the Annual Meeting will have a chance to win many prizes, including a \$300 KEC bill credit and a Nest Learning Thermostat (valued at \$249). Members must be

present to win. Each member household attending the Annual Meeting will receive one \$20 meal certificate redeemable at local participating restaurants.

2019 Board Election

Watch your email and mailbox this month for details about our board election. This is your chance to elect those who will represent you and your interests on our Board of Directors. In 2019, members will elect directors for districts 1 and at-large. Elected directors serve three-year terms. Visit www.kec.com to review board candidate bios and speech videos. For your convenience, you can vote by mail ballot or online.

The deadline to vote online is April 26, 2019. Mail-in ballots must be postmarked by April 26, 2019, to be counted. Members who vote in the election will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 KEC bill credit. Members voting online help reduce KEC's balloting costs and will also be entered into a drawing for a unit in KEC's Community Solar Project (valued at \$456).

The solar unit may be transferred or gifted to another member but is not redeemable for cash.

Election results will be announced 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 also be published at www.kec.com and in our July newsletter. [1334823]

Should you have any questions about the meeting or board candidates, please contact us at 208.765.1200 or cec@cec.com.

Please note: The 2019 director election will be conducted by mail and online only. In-person voting will not be available at the Annual Meeting. This helps ensure the timeliness and integrity of the voting process without unnecessarily extending the Annual Meeting.



OPERATION ROUND UP® GRANTS AWARDED TO OUR COMMUNITY

Operation Round Up® is supported by KEC members who voluntarily “round up” their monthly electric bills to the nearest dollar to help our neighbors in need. The extra pennies go into the Kootenai Electric Trust fund which distributes grants to worthy causes in KEC’s service territory. Through this program, more than \$1 million has been invested in our community. Contact us at 208.765.1200 or kec@kec.com to “round up” your bill.

In February 2019, the Trust Board awarded more than \$17,500 to the following organizations:

- \$2,500 to Camp Fire Inland Northwest to purchase a new food waste disposer for Camp Sweyolakan.
- \$2,500 to the Post Falls Senior Center for their Meals on Wheels program.
- \$2,500 to the Rathdrum Lions Club to purchase food for the weekend nutritional backpack program for students in need.
- \$2,476 to the Harrison Senior Center to purchase a new furnace. [1835563]
- \$2,000 to Family Promise of North Idaho to provide overnight shelter and services for homeless families.
- \$2,000 to the North Idaho Fair Foundation for

the Farm to Table field trip for fifth-graders in the Lakeland and Post Falls school districts.

- \$1,740 to the Ramsey Magnet School of Science for the music program and a second-grade field trip.
- \$1,000 to the North Idaho Youth Orchestra to purchase posture chairs for music students.
- \$1,000 to the United Way of North Idaho to purchase diapers for families in need. [1609143]

The next grant applications are due April 26, 2019. 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.

Interested in serving on the Trust Board? The Trust Board is made up of KEC members who serve on a voluntary basis. They receive and evaluate all grant requests and determine how they will be distributed. Trust Board positions in Districts 1, 3 and 4 will be open in August 2019 due to term limits. If you’re interested in serving please call 208.292.3270 or email eneff@kec.com.

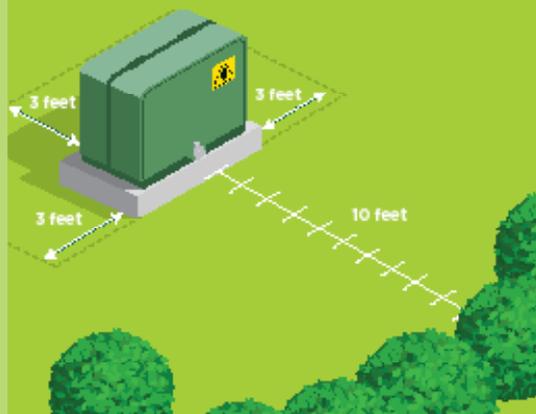
Avoid the Big Green Box

Please stay away from pad-mounted transformers (the big green boxes you see below). While safe, they are not meant for touching, climbing or playing. Pad-mounted transformers carry high voltages of electricity that serve many homes in our communities. If you notice anything amiss, like an unlocked transformer or one that has been damaged, please contact us at 208.765.1200 immediately. [1821428]

Never touch, climb or play on pad-mounted transformers. Never put fingers, sticks or other objects through cracks in the transformer.



Keep areas surrounding the pad-mounted transformer clear so that workers can safely maintain transformers as needed. Keep shrubs and structures at least 10 feet away from the transformer doors and 3 feet away from the sides.



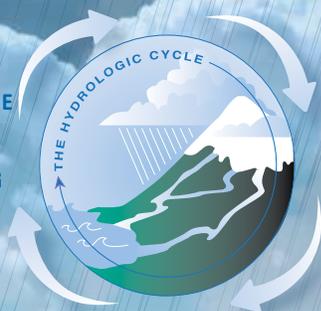
Never dig near a pad-mounted transformer. They are surrounded by underground cables. Hitting the cable could result in electrical shock or disruption of service. Always dial 8-1-1 before you dig.



Hydropower: from water to watt

Rain and melting snow feed streams and rivers. Dams hold back the river water so it can be released onto turbine blades that spin like a propeller. The spinning blades convert the power of the falling river water into electricity, creating hydropower — a clean, renewable energy and the main source of the Northwest's low-cost electricity.

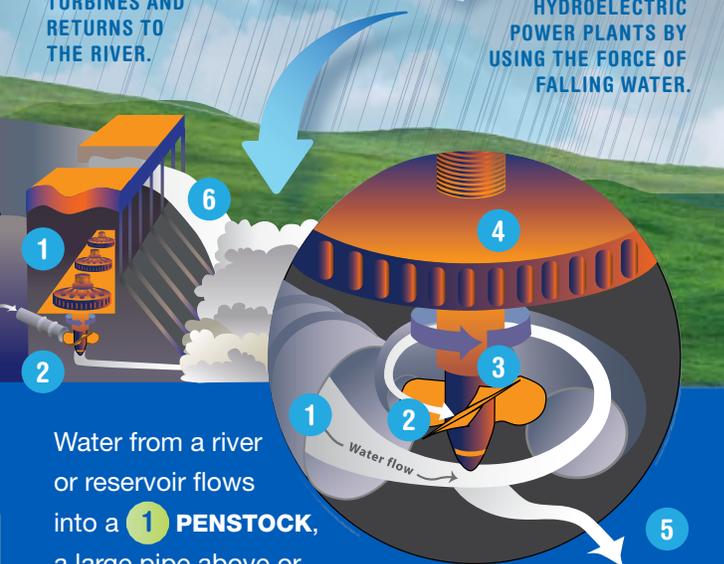
THE SUN
DRAWS MOISTURE
(EVAPORATION)
FROM THE
OCEAN, FORMING
CLOUDS.



RAIN AND
RUNOFF FROM
THE SNOWPACK
FILLS RIVERS
AND STREAMS.

WATER PASSES
THROUGH THE
TURBINES AND
RETURNS TO
THE RIVER.

ELECTRICITY IS
GENERATED AT
HYDROELECTRIC
POWER PLANTS BY
USING THE FORCE OF
FALLING WATER.



Water from a river or reservoir flows into a **1 PENSTOCK**, a large pipe above or below ground, that is commonly used to direct the water flow. **2 TURBINE BLADES** are pushed by the force of water exiting the penstock, causing them to transfer the energy of falling water to rotate the shaft. The **3 SHAFT** connects the turbine to the generator, turning at the same speed as the turbine. Inside the **4 GENERATOR**, the spinning shaft turns electromagnets inside a stationary ring of copper, moving electrons to produce electricity. **5 WATER FLOW** used to turn the turbines returns to the river. **6 SPILLWAYS** release water downstream that is not directed to the turbines to generate electricity.

NEWS BRIEFS

RIGHT-OF-WAY AND TREE TRIMMING REMINDERS

Everyone loves and values trees. Regardless of whether it is an ornamental yard tree or a native fir, trees provide a variety of benefits while occasionally creating risk to both lives and property. KEC's vegetation management program strives to balance the importance of trees with our commitment to deliver safe and reliable electrical power. We ask for your cooperation in keeping rights-of-way free of vegetation and structures to ensure our line crews and arborists have access for repairs and to maintain the safety zone around energized wires. Please do not plant trees within 30 feet of power lines and always notify KEC of trees posing a risk to the wires. Visit www.kec.com and fill out the problem tree report or call KEC's Right-of-Way Specialist at 208.292.3216.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGER (LEVEL 2) REBATE

KEC is now offering a \$350 rebate for Level 2 programmable electric vehicle chargers installed at your home. A Level 2 charger requires 240 volts and charges your vehicle faster than a Level 1 charger, which uses a standard 120-volt three-prong outlet charger. This type of programmable charger allows members to selectively charge their vehicles during our non-peak hours—between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. Non-peak charging benefits KEC and its members by spreading out our electric load over time, which reduces the need for costly system upgrades. Chargers must be installed by a licensed electrician. In addition, it is important that you contact KEC prior to installing an EV charger so we can ensure your electric service is adequately sized. For more information or rebate forms visit www.kec.com. [1781397]

WIN A \$50 ENERGY CREDIT

We've increased the hidden account numbers from six to ten to increase your chances to win! If you find your number contact us at 208.765.1200 and receive a \$50 credit on your bill. [1838047]

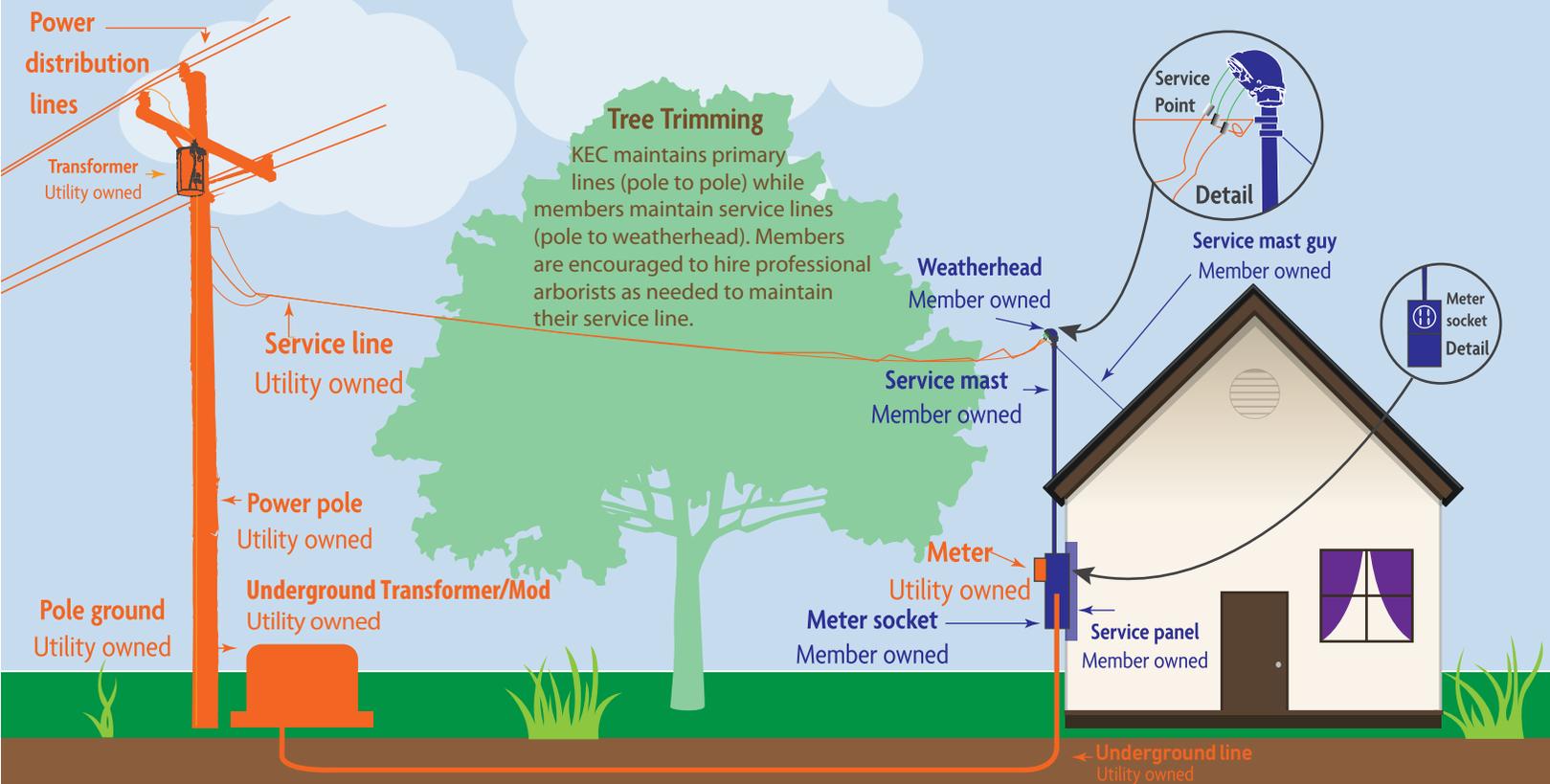
KEC BOARD MEETINGS

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

Who Owns What?

Kootenai Electric vs Member-Owned Electric Equipment

[1710927]



Knowing the safety precautions and legal responsibilities of your electric service is important for all KEC members. You may not be aware which equipment is the homeowner's responsibility and which 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. Please keep the area around your meter box clear so KEC employees can access it if needed.

For underground service, KEC is responsible for the transformer, the 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. [1820137]

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 