



# MIDSTATE CONNECTION

Office Hours: 7:00 am-5:30 pm, Monday-Thursday  
Closed Fridays & Holidays

Business Hours: 541-536-2126  
After Hours Outages: 800-752-5935

## IMPORTANT MEC INFORMATION & Dates to Remember

### Rate Increase Likely in Fall 2025

Midstate members may see an increase in their monthly billing statements this fall. Our power supplier, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has notified us that their transmission and power costs will be going up effective October 1.



We understand that no one welcomes a rate increase, and we want to assure you that Midstate's Board of Directors remain committed to keeping costs as low and stable as possible, without impacting service or reliability.

We continue to work hard to manage our operations efficiently and explore energy solutions that support long-term affordability and sustainability. We will continue to share updates as they become available.

## Congratulations! Midstate Celebrates 2025 Scholarship Recipients

At Midstate, we believe in the power of education and the importance of supporting local youth. Guided by the cooperative principle, Concern for Community, we invest in the future of the communities we serve by awarding scholarships to deserving students each year.

Whether graduating high school, pursuing a college degree, or training to become a lineworker, we're proud to help them take the next step. This year, we awarded scholarships to five graduating

seniors. Three plan to attend a four-year university, and two will enroll in lineworker school. We also awarded two continuing education scholarships to individuals from our service territory who are already enrolled in college.

We're proud to offer these opportunities through unclaimed capital credits—funds reinvested to support our members.

Visit our website to learn more about Midstate's scholarship program at [mse.coop/scholarship-programs](https://mse.coop/scholarship-programs).

**\$10,000**

### Graduating Senior Scholarship Recipients



**Tayva Forman**  
North Lake School



**Kaidin Lambert**  
Gilchrist School



**Payton Johnston**  
La Pine High School

**\$25,000**

### Lineworker Scholarship Recipients



**Brayden Keese**  
La Pine High School



**Carter Golson**  
North Lake School



**Patience Haff**  
Corban University



**Linda Marie Keeney**  
Eastern Oregon Univ.

**\$2,500**

### Cont. Education Scholarship Recipients

### Calendar Contest Ends August 4th

Share your most stunning, high-resolution photos with us for a chance to be featured in our 2026 Member Calendar. Thirteen photos will be selected—one for

each month and a cover image. Monthly winners will each receive \$50, and the cover winner will earn a \$200 grand prize.

Submissions are accepted online at <https://www.midstateelectric.coop/calendar-contest>.

Let's get connected on social media so you'll never miss an update on MEC activities, programs, and contests.



# Stay Connected During Wildfire Season

Wildfire season is approaching, and its unpredictability can make you feel helpless.

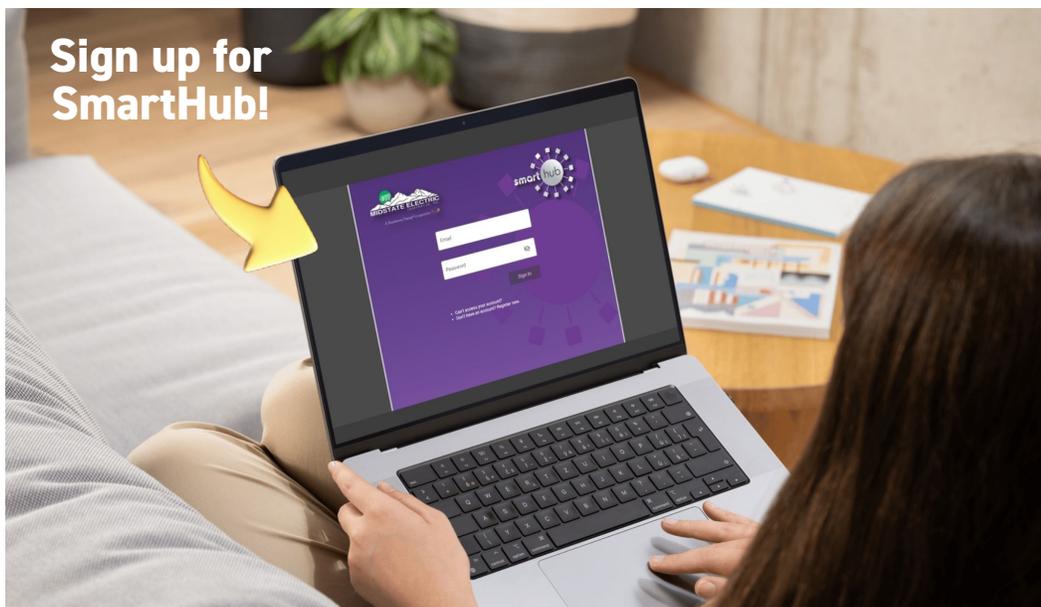
Being informed and prepared puts you back in control—even in a worst-case scenario.

We all share the responsibility of keeping our community safe during wildfire season. One of the most important ways you can help is by making sure Midstate Electric has your most up-to-date contact information. Accurate phone numbers and email addresses allow us to quickly reach you with safety notifications, outage updates, and critical emergency alerts when every moment counts.

To stay connected, we encourage all members to sign up for a SmartHub account. SmartHub is a secure and convenient tool that not only lets you view your electric usage and pay your bill, but also ensures you receive timely alerts during emergencies. Whether you access it online or through the mobile app, **SmartHub makes it easy to manage your account and stay informed—anytime, anywhere. Sign up today at <https://midstateelectric.smarthub.coop/>.**



## Sign up for SmartHub!



orders. Sign up to receive alerts from your county government pages:

- **Deschutes County:** [deschutes.org/911/page/sign-deschutes-alerts](https://deschutes.org/911/page/sign-deschutes-alerts)
- **Klamath County:** [klamathcounty.org/300/Emergency-Management](https://klamathcounty.org/300/Emergency-Management)
- **Lake County:** [lakecountyor.org/sign-up-for-or-alerts/index.php](https://lakecountyor.org/sign-up-for-or-alerts/index.php)

**Air quality:** Visit [airnow.gov](http://airnow.gov) to check your local Air Quality Index. If the AQI is bad, close your air conditioner's fresh air intake/turn off your swamp cooler and seal all your doors and windows. Wear a KN95 mask if you must go outside. Run an air purifier if you have one, and change your HVAC filter once conditions have cleared.

**Safety:** Call Midstate and 911 if you see downed power lines and stay at least 100 feet away. Steer clear of any puddles or wet ground that is in contact with the line since water conducts electricity. Do not rely on social media to report outages, downed lines or unsafe conditions.

### What we're doing to prevent wildfire spread:

**Fire-prevention procedures:** Even in the absence of active wildfires, Midstate may adjust our outage response procedures during hot, dry and windy conditions. If outages occur, we will conduct manual inspections of our equipment before attempting to turn power back on. While this practice helps reduce fire risks, it may result in more frequent and longer power interruptions.

**Vegetation management:** Our field crews

trim trees and clear debris near power lines and poles to create defensible spaces that limit wildfire spread.

**Using smart technology:** Advanced metering infrastructure, weather monitoring systems and remote shutoff capabilities empower us to proactively respond to threats and prevent wildfire spread in real time.

### What you can do:

**Outside your home:** Create a defensible space by clearing plants, wood piles and other flammable material from the perimeter of your home. Trim foliage so it has 10 feet of clearance, and avoid parking on dry grass. Clear debris from your gutters and roof.

**Inside your home:** Choose fire-resistant building materials. Ensure smoke detectors are installed and operational, keep fire extinguishers near all heat sources and store gas cans away from your home. Use surge protectors or turn off your main breaker during a power outage. Keep up-to-date pictures of your home and insurance info on your phone.

**Just in case:** Keep basic supplies on hand in case you lose power and a backup power source if you rely on electric medical equipment. Keep your vehicle's gas tank or your electric vehicle battery at least half full, map out at least two evacuation routes and have a bag packed with medications, important documents and cash.

**For more wildfire safety tips, visit [ready.gov/wildfires](http://ready.gov/wildfires).**

### What to expect during wildfire season:

**Red Flag Warnings:** When weather conditions indicate risk is high for wildfire ignition and rapid spread, the National Weather Service will issue Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches. These conditions include warm temperatures, very low humidity, strong winds, drought and dry vegetation. Midstate may activate our wildfire-prevention procedure, which reduces fire risks but can result in more frequent and longer power interruptions.

**Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS):** In coordination with wildfire experts and emergency responders, Midstate will determine when power shutoffs are needed for public safety. While shutting off power reduces the risk of sparks from tree branches hitting power lines, it is our last resort.

### What to do during a wildfire:

**Monitor:** Tune into your local radio or news station for wildfire updates and evacuation