



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

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL



Why do we love October? Because it's National Co-op Month! This is a time to truly celebrate the many aspects that set co-ops apart from traditional businesses. But more importantly, Co-op Month is a time to celebrate you, the members of the co-op.

That's why we're excited to announce **THREE Member Appreciation Day events happening during the second week of October!** These special gatherings will be held at multiple locations, giving you the chance to meet Midstate staff and directors, learn about your local electric cooperative, and enjoy some fun right in your community.

We'll have complimentary hot dogs, refreshments, and prizes at each event, so make sure to stop by and celebrate with us! It's a perfect opportunity to connect with the people who work hard to provide you with reliable service and to explore the benefits available to you as a member. We can't wait to see you there!

EVENT DETAILS:

Appreciation Event 1

Date: October 7th

Time: 5pm-7pm

Location: Christmas Valley Booster Club Building

Appreciation Event 2

Date: October 8th

Time: 5pm-7pm

Location: Crescent Community Club

Appreciation Event 3

Date: October 9th

Time: 1pm-7pm

Location: Midstate Headquarters

Can't make it to one of our events? No problem!

Every MEC member has a chance to enter our drawing for a \$100 bill credit.

Scan the QR code below or visit www.mse.coop/co-op-month to enter to win one of FOUR \$100 bill credits.

Bill credit winners will be announced Oct. 10, 17, 24, and 31.

Contest ends October 31, 2024.



*Only one entry is needed to be eligible for drawings throughout the month.



Cover (above) – Saundra Hopkins

CONGRATULATIONS! 2025 MEMBER CALENDAR CONTEST WINNERS

January – Carolyn Waissman

February – Rachel M Canada

March – Theodore Sommers

April – Rick Anderson

May – Carol Anderson

June – Steven A Fouts

July – Michael Lazott

August – Michelle Corse

September – Harvey C Barragar

October – James Craig Geyer

November – Rick Anderson

December – Julia Delegates

Thank you to all who entered this year's contest. The 2025 Member Calendar will be provided to every member as an insert in November's Ruralite.

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



New Rate Structure Coming January 2025

In our ongoing effort to provide reliable and affordable electric service, **Midstate Electric Cooperative is introducing a new demand charge of \$1.25 per kW to our billing structure**, which will take effect on your January 2025 billing statement. This adjustment better reflects the cost of providing power based on the peak demand placed on our system, similar to how our power supplier, Bonneville Power Administration, bills Midstate.

The demand charge is a fee based on the highest level of electricity demand recorded during your billing cycle. After carefully reviewing all options, Midstate's Board of Directors made the difficult decision to implement this change. By introducing a demand charge instead of an increase to the kWh rate, the cost burden is shifted to high-demand users, rather than the entire membership. This new structure is more equitable and gives members the opportunity to manage their energy costs.

To help manage your demand and potentially lower your charge, consider the following tips:


Monitor Usage: Keep track of your peak usage periods through our online platform, SmartHub. Visit midstateelectric.com to register your account.

Shift Usage: Try to use large appliances throughout the day instead of operating them at the same time.

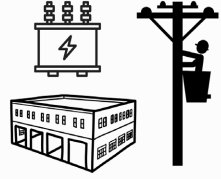
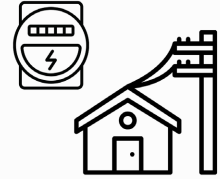
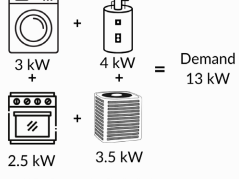
Upgrade Equipment: Efficient appliances and equipment can reduce peak demand.

Below is an overview of the new rate structure:

- 1. Energy Charge (EXISTING)** – The total amount of energy used during the billing cycle, measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh).
- 2. Demand Charge (NEW)** – This charge is based on your highest thirty-minutes of energy use during the monthly billing cycle.
- 3. Facilities Charge (EXISTING)** – A fixed monthly charge that covers the costs of delivering electricity to your home.



UNDERSTANDING THREE-PART RATES

FACILITIES CHARGE	ENERGY CHARGE (kWh)	DEMAND CHARGE (kW) <small>NEW</small>
A fixed monthly charge that covers the costs of delivering electricity to your home or business. 	The total amount of energy used during the billing cycle, measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh). 	This charge is based on your highest thirty-minutes of energy use during the monthly billing cycle, measured in kilowatts (kW).  <small>*Member used multiple devices at once resulting in a peak demand of 13 kW.</small>

In the demand charge example above, a residential member is using their clothes dryer, oven, water heater, and air conditioning simultaneously, resulting in 13 kW of demand. Since this was their peak usage for the month, they will see a demand charge of \$16.25 (13 kW x \$1.25) on their bill.

We understand that changes to billing can raise questions and hardships, and we are here to help. If you have any concerns or need assistance understanding how this might impact your account, please visit our website at www.mse.coop/rate-structure or contact our member service team at (541) 536-2126.



*Contest Closes
October 31st!*

To show our appreciation for MEC's wonderful membership, we are giving away 13 Thanksgiving turkeys next month. Thank you for making this such a great community to serve! Get your name in the raffle by completing the form below or entering online at <https://www.mse.coop/thanksgiving> by October 31st. Winners' names will be drawn each business day from November 4th-November 25th.

13 Days of Thanksgiving Contest Entry Form

Name _____ Phone # _____

MEC Account # _____

Service Address _____

Return form to MEC Communications Department in person or by mail at PO Box 127, La Pine, OR 97739.

Winners will be called the same day their name is drawn.