



Check out BENCO's Updated Website on August 1

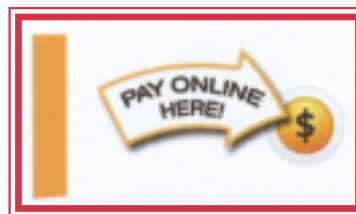
On August 1, BENCO Electric will be unveiling our newly redesigned website. So please, go online and check us out.

What you can do:

- Pay your bill
- Check your energy usage
- Check out load management programs
- Sign up for Operation Round Up
- Get an Operation Round Up Application
- Look at the BENCO newsletter

These are just a few of the things you will find on our website. So go online and take a look around. Hopefully, you will find the new website easy to use and helpful in answering your questions.

To pay your bill: Click on



Have your account number and PIN ready to type in here.



www.BENCO.org

Now you're ready to pay your bill or check your usage.



BENCO
ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE

CONTACT US | OUTAGES | SEARCH

HOME ABOUT US NEWSLETTER MEMBERS RESOURCES PROGRAMS CONTACT US PAY ONLINE

News and Events

- June 1, 2011
June Newsletter 2011
- May 1, 2011
May Newsletter 2011
- March 1, 2011
March/April Newsletter 2011

More News and Events

BENCO Electric Cooperative

Welcome to the Blue Earth-Nicollet Cooperative (BENCO) Electric Association website. Here you will find information about BENCO Electric Association as well as helpful resources to help you.

Outage Reporting Number: (507) 387-7964
Outage Update Number: (507) 387-8888

TOGETHER WE SAVE.COM
START SAVING IN YOUR HOME

New Bill Remit Process "Check 21"

Notice to all BENCO Electric members: Beginning August 1, BENCO Electric will be implementing a new software program that will utilize "Check 21" (an automatic clearing process) and enable more effective payment processing for our customers. The Check 21 system is efficient and economical, and payments will be processed much faster. The system is digital, which will reduce staff time and resources spent on processing payments. To help facilitate this new process, please make sure to include the remittance portion of your bill along with your payment every month.

You may notice an "ACH" on your bank statement even though a check was written, and others may show a "Check 21" on their bank statement. Since the "Check 21" system is an electronic system, please remember it will clear quickly. You will lose the "float" that is associated with writing a check.

As with the implementation of any new process, there are bound to be questions or concerns. If you are concerned that your payment has been posted with an error, please notify our billing department immediately.

From the Board

Thursday, May 26, 2011
Blake Meshke Presided

The board reviewed and approved:
• The minutes of the April 28 board meeting.

• Capital Credits to estates totaling \$6,577.55.

Wade reviewed policies 206-208 with no recommended changes. Wade reviewed a recommended change to Policy 204.

The attorney reviewed current legal work for the cooperative.

Directors' reports were as follows:

Brad reported on the May GRE Board Meeting.

CTV Board members reported that the annual meeting will be August 1. The IRS will be auditing the 2008 Form 990.

Harlan gave the Cooperative Network report.

Directors attending reported on the NRECA Legislative conference.

New business:

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to set June 30 as the regular June Board meeting and July 29 as the regular July Board meeting.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve revised Policy 204.

Farmfest—August 2-4, 2011.

**Light up your nights
with an LED Flashlight!**

Redeem this coupon at booth # 2301 in the Ag Tent on August 2-4, 2011, for your **FREE** LED Flashlight.



Gilfillan Estate - Redwood County

BENCO
E L E C T R I C
COOPERATIVE



August 2 - 4

Tuesday & Wednesday - 8 am to 5 pm

Thursday - 8 am to 4 pm

BENCO ELECTRIC

This newsletter is published monthly by BENCO Electric Cooperative, PO Box 8, Mankato, MN 56002-0008.

Office Hours: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Phone: 387-7963 or 1-888-79BENCO

Outages/After Hours: 387-7963 or
1-888-792-3626

Dave Sunderman - Member Services Manager

Kathy Gerber - Editor

Board of Directors:

Blake Meshke - *President - District 6*
Duane Ehrlich - *Vice President - District 8*
Harvey Hesse - *Secretary - MREA Director - District 5*
Harlan Lanz - *Treasurer - MAC Director - District 2*
Garfield Eckberg - *District 1*
Brad Leiding - *GRE Director - District 3*
John Wells - *District 4*
Gary Stenzel - *District 7*
Scott Johnson - *District 9*
Wade Hensel - *General Manager*
John C. (Chuck) Peterson - *Attorney*

Board Meetings: The last Thursday of each month - members are welcome to contact directors with items of interest or concerns in advance of the meetings.

PCA Update

Actual PCA for June
\$0.0448

Estimated PCA for July
\$0.0388

Estimated PCA for August
\$0.0385

The Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) is due to changes in the monthly wholesale rate from our power supplier, Great River Energy (GRE).

Free Wood Chips

Are you in need of wood chips? BENCO Electric has wood chips available through Carrs Tree Trimming service.

Wood chips are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Contact Archie Kendall at 387-7963 or 1-888-792-3626 if you are interested.



Call before you dig!

811

It's The Law

Anyone planning to dig more than 12 inches is now required by law to notify the state of their intentions at least 48 hours in advance before digging takes place. All digging requires the 48-hour notification so that buried electrical lines, city water and sewer lines, TV cable, telephone lines and gas lines can be located.

Statement of Nondiscrimination

BENCO Electric Cooperative is the recipient of Federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

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Need A Free Wooden Reel?



Are you in need of a wooden reel? BENCO Electric has several on hand, and you can have them for FREE!

Reels are available on a first-come, first-served basis and they are only available at the Mankato office.

Contact Ron Prange at 387-7963 or 1-888-792-3626 if you are interested.

BENCO will help you load the reels.

**BENCO Electric will be closed
Monday, July 4.**

Have a Safe & Happy 4th of July!



What's Cookin': Cream of Asparagus Soup

- 3 to 4 cups of asparagus (cut small)
- 2 T butter
- 4 T Flour
- 4 cups chicken
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1 cup milk or cream
- 2 egg yolks

You can receive a \$10 credit on your electric bill, if you send in your favorite recipe and it gets printed in the newsletter. Send your favorite recipes to: Kathy BENCO Electric PO Box 8 Mankato, MN 56002

Melt butter in heavy-bottomed sauce pan. Add flour, thoroughly stir in. Cook on medium heat 1 to 2 minutes. Gradually stir in chicken stock and asparagus, and bring to boil; reduce heat and simmer for 30 minutes. Add milk and beaten egg yolks. Cook and stir till reheated and thickened.

Where, Oh Where?

The following is a list of former BENCO Electric members whose capital credit checks were returned by the post office as undeliverable. Any information you can give us regarding the current whereabouts of these individuals or their relatives would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Jill at 387-7963 or 1-888-79BENCO.

A
Helene Abraha, Garrison
Kimberly Akers, Mankato
Timothy Allevan, Grand Meadow
Pam Ammerman, Mankato
Brad Anders, Egan

Barbara Anderson, North Mankato
Dale O. Anderson, Grantsburg WI
Darrell D. Anderson, Winthrop
Jada Anderson, Eagle Lake
Kevin A. Anderson, N. Mankato
Orville C. Anderson, Mankato
Peter A. Anderson, Mankato
Christopher J. Andresen, Silverdale WA
Scott & Jessica Andrews, New Ulm
Edward Anton Jr., Nicollet
Steven Arends, Estherville IA
Michael Arens, Scanlon

B
Robert G. Baker, Mankato
David L. Bale, Rochester
Banks, Mankato

Troy Barnes, Brainerd
Michael J. Barron, Le Sueur
Jean Becker, N. Mankato
Alan R. Bennett, Onalaska WI
Anita D. Bergemann, Mankato
Richard Bergemann, Phoenix AZ
Johnathon Berg, Hudson WI
Steven Berkland, Mankato
William Betzing, Mankato
Debra Bina, Hopkins
Victoria Bisek, Brooklyn Park
Kathy Black, Mankato
Waldemar A. Bode, Madison Lake
Mrs. Art Boettcher, Blue Earth
Eleanor L. Bolger, Mankato
Ruth Bond, Madison Lake
Gina Bourdeau, Mankato

Daniel Borseth, Blue Earth
Sarah Boxrud, Louisburg
Gary Brandeland, Mankato
David A. Brandt, Eagle Lake
Kiel Braun, Henderson
Leslie Brey, Madison Lake
Kathleen & Tom Brielmaier, Mankato
Thomas E. & Diane Brockman, Star Prairie WI
Mark Broman, Mankato
Charles E. Brown, Excelsior
Dwayne Brown, Waseca
Armin Bruegger Jr., Minneapolis
Tami Bruns, St. James
Janelle Bunde, St. James
James A. Burger, N. Mankato