

SAVE THE DATE: MEMBER APPRECIATION EVENT ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2023



Join us for KEC's Member Appreciation Event on Saturday, September 9, 2023, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Bluegrass Park in Coeur d'Alene at 6071 N. Courcelles Pkwy. The event includes free food and gifts, as well as these fun activities for the whole family:

- Inflatable slides and bungee trampolines
- Safety demonstrations
- Bucket truck rides
- Music with a DJ

If you have any questions, please contact us at kec@kec.com or 208.765.1200.

Get Smart About Home Lighting

Smart home technologies continue to grow in popularity, and for good reason. They offer users more control, freedom and security over their homes and can improve comfort, energy use, the environment and safety. This month we will feature smart lighting, which connects to Wi-Fi and offers an array of cutting-edge functionality and convenience. Let's look at the main benefits of smart lighting options.

- **Smart lighting is energy efficient.** Most smart bulbs utilize LED technology, which is much more efficient than traditional incandescent lighting. Additionally, smart lighting gives you more control over how and when you light your home, ultimately resulting in less energy used for lighting.
- **Smart lighting provides convenience and control.** Most smart bulbs can be controlled from an app on your smartphone or can be paired with your voice assistant, like Amazon Alexa. You can conveniently control lighting settings from anywhere in your home or when you're away.
- **Smart options empower you to personalize home lighting.** Bright, warm, purple, green—whatever mood you want to create, smart lighting can help.

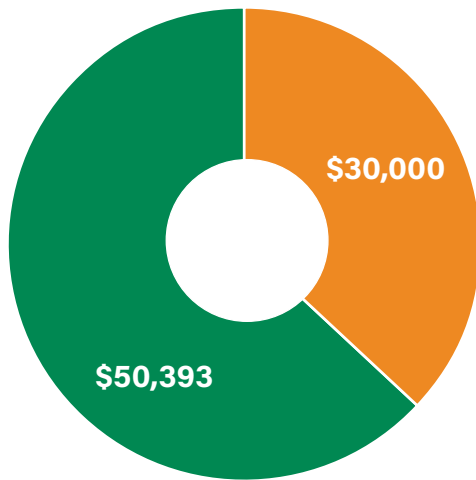


While smart lighting offers convenience and control, keep in mind your wall light switch will need to stay "on" for you to control the smart bulb from your phone or via voice command. If you need additional options to operate the lights, consider a smart light switch. Today's smart switches tend to play nicely with smart bulbs. If you want to control your smart bulbs with a physical switch (in addition to using your phone and voice commands), look for smart switches that include a built-in feature that allows both. Many smart light switches include motion detectors as well.

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2022 OPERATION ROUND UP® ANNUAL REPORT

COLLECTED FUNDS: \$84,719



**AWARDED FUNDS:
\$80,393**

Scholarships **Grants**

A sampling of 2022 grants:

- \$7,500 to KEC's Project Share program. These funds are available to KEC members who qualify for help paying their energy bills.
- \$2,500 to Camp Fire Inland Northwest to help fund the replacement and installation of the electrical panel at a large building at Camp Sweyolakan on Lake Coeur d'Alene.
- \$2,500 to the Rathdrum Community Center to replace aging reach-in freezers and coolers.
- \$2,000 to Turkeys and More to provide turkeys and holiday food to serve 1,800 families in need for Thanksgiving.

**Independent accountant's report
conducted by Magnuson, McHugh &
Company, P.A.**

Thank You to the 2022 Trust Board

Jay Baker
District 1

Jessica Bacon Wourms
Secretary/Treasurer
District 2

Dan Green
District 3

Joe Piedmont
District 4

Randy Foiles
District 5

Tom Craig Zajicek
Chair
District At-Large

Cheri Zao
Vice Chair
District At-Large

ABOUT OPERATION ROUND UP®

When neighbors are in need, we take action through Operation Round Up® grants. Last year, more than 20 local non-profits and community groups received a combined \$50,393 to help with everything from energy payment assistance to various school programs.

Participating in Operation Round Up® is easy. The average monthly member contribution is 50 cents and together our members have generated more than \$1.4 million since November 2002.

Are you "rounding up" your KEC bill? If not, we need your help! Each month, KEC "rounds up" the electric bills of participating members to the next highest dollar. The donations are placed in the Kootenai Electric Trust and a volunteer board of members (see board member list above) determines how to allocate the funds to our community. They award grants to local non-profit organizations including schools, food banks, senior centers and more. Operation Round Up® also helps local students pay for college or trade school. Since 2007, we have supported nearly 200 students with more than \$200,000 in scholarships. These scholarships help educate and strengthen our community.

Start "rounding up" your KEC bill by logging in to your SmartHub account and click under the Billing and Payments tab. You may also visit www.kec.com or contact us at kec@kec.com or 208.765.1200.

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.

Employee Spotlight: Shaun Andrews



Shaun Andrews is an Electrical Engineer. He has worked for KEC for three years.

How did you train for work in this field?

My primary training was obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Idaho. However, an internship at KEC, prior work experience and specialized training conferences aided me as well. During my studies at the University of Idaho I also worked as an electrical engineering ambassador presenting engineering fundamentals to K-12 students, which was a ton of fun!

What made you interested in working for KEC?

During my internship, I became immediately aware of the positive culture, collaborative environment and plentiful learning opportunities that made KEC a desirable place to work. In addition, my favorite power engineering professor in college always spoke very highly of KEC and mentioned that people who worked there often ended up staying with the cooperative for their entire career.

What does a day look like for you as an engineer?

A day in the life for me as an electrical engineer can vary quite dramatically. Each year KEC makes significant investments into the electric grid through capital construction projects and maintenance. I work with other experienced engineers at times to perform system analysis and develop new project scope details.

I also work closely with KEC's electro technicians who are responsible for the maintenance, repair, testing

and configuration of specialized equipment such as meters, reclosers, regulators, relays and more on the grid and in substations. As an electrical engineer, my role in this may include specifying and procuring the material, developing the device settings, and performing commissioning tests to ensure the device will function as needed on the KEC system.

How does your work improve reliability for members?

At KEC, engineers like me are always looking for ways to improve reliability for our members. One of the ways we do this is by conducting sectionalizing studies, which involves verifying protective devices are installed at the right location to minimize outage areas. This requires critically analyzing each piece of the system, validating that devices are sized and configured to work properly in coordination with each other and ensuring that equipment is of sufficient capacity to provide our members with dependable power.

I also helped develop and now assist in overseeing KEC's Inspection and Maintenance Plan that directly serves to improve reliability for members by ensuring that our equipment is routinely inspected and functional. Engineers lead end-of-life equipment replacement projects and remain actively involved in a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system integration project. SCADA will allow KEC to remotely monitor and control devices to be alerted to abnormalities and respond to outage situations quicker.

What is the biggest challenge in your job?

I think the biggest challenge for me is keeping track of all of the moving parts associated with the rapid growth we have been seeing in conjunction with a high volume of system improvements and maintenance projects. Materials and equipment have very long lead times across the industry right now, so engineers must work diligently to forecast needs further out into the future than ever before to ensure projects can be completed timely and meet the needs of our growing power system.

What is the best part of your job?

The best part of my job is working with a stellar team who share the same desire to stay ahead of power system growth, continue to meet the needs of our members and all the while having fun doing it!

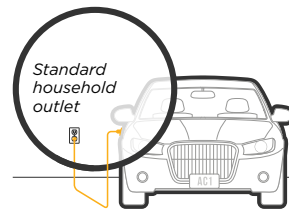
EV Home Charging Options & Levels

You've likely heard or read that most automakers are transitioning many or all their new vehicles to electric-only models over the next 10 years. Regardless of the type of car you drive today, the electrification of the transportation sector is underway. Electric vehicle (EV) owners have multiple options for charging their vehicle at home. There are three common EV charging levels:

Level One is the most basic charging level. If you choose this option, your EV will typically include an adapter that plugs into a typical 120-volt outlet. This is the easiest and cheapest charging solution, but it will take much longer to charge your EV.

Level Two is about 3-5 times faster than Level One, but this level of charging often requires separate purchases and installation. The EV is plugged into a 240-volt outlet,

AC Level One



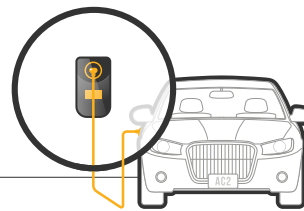
VOLTAGE:
120V 1-Phase AC

AMPS:
12-16 Amps

CHARGING LOADS:
1.4 to 1.9 kW

VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:
3-5 Miles per Hour

AC Level Two



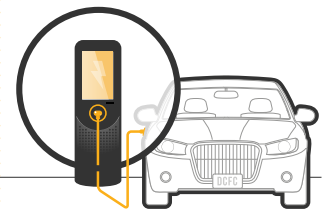
VOLTAGE:
208V or 240V 1-Phase AC

AMPS:
12-80 Amps (typ. 32 Amps)

CHARGING LOADS:
2.5 to 19.2 kW (typ. 6.6kW)

VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:
10-20 Miles per Hour
20+ for some EV models

DC Fast Charge



VOLTAGE:
208V or 480V 3-Phase AC

AMPS:
<100 Amps

CHARGING LOADS:
50-350 kW

VEHICLE CHARGE TIME:
60-80 Miles in 20 Minutes

Sources: Advanced Energy and EPA

which is used for larger appliances, like a clothes dryer. Most homes do not include a 240-volt outlet in garages, so the outlet must be installed by a licensed professional. You typically see Level Two charging stations at shopping malls, office buildings and other community spaces.

DC Fast Charge stations are typically seen near high-traffic public areas, rather than in homes. This is the fastest charging level,

with the ability to charge an EV to 80% in under 30 minutes.

If you're charging an EV at home, please contact us at 208.765.1200. EV charging creates additional energy demand and can affect your monthly energy costs. By letting us know about your EV charger, we can help ensure your home is prepared for the additional energy consumption, and you can learn more about our \$350 Level Two EV charger rebate.

HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURE

The KEC office will be closed on September 4, in observance of Labor Day.

KEC BOARD MEETINGS

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

WIN A \$50 ENERGY CREDIT

Below are 10 KEC account numbers. If you find yours contact us at 208.765.1200 to receive a \$50 bill credit.

1250637, 1850808, 1537555, 1818374, 1266262, 1851426, 1272828, 1859230, 1245478, 1307082

SMART LIGHTING CONTINUED

If you're new to smart home tech and looking to start small, try a smart bulb in a high-traffic area of your home. It's also worth noting that smart plugs are a great starter option and allow convenient control of lamps or other lighting fixtures that are plugged in to a wall outlet. Smart plugs are inexpensive and simply plug in to your existing outlet. Electrical items that are connected to the smart plug can be controlled from a smart phone app, just like smart bulbs.

Whether you're looking for more convenience, colorful options or better ways to manage energy use, smart lighting can provide multiple benefits. Determine which smart lighting features are most important for your needs, then start shopping!